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Model MILITARY

Issue 49 - May 2010
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INTERNATIONAL

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TWO FER!**

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MAGNIFICENT
SEVEN**

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Sd.Kfz. 7 Half Track



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Colours for the Middle East
- Research and Artwork by
William Marshall

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new 1:35 Austin Tilly,
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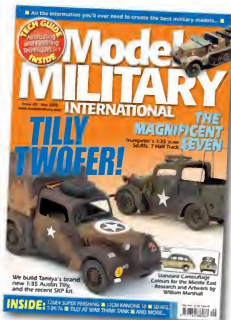
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AFV Club 1:35 scale T-34/76 Clear Edition



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Tel: (UK) 01525 222573

Fax: (UK) 01525 222574

Email: enquiries@modelmilitary.com

Address: ADH Publishing, Doolittle Mill, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1UX, UK

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BADGER AIR-BRUSH CO. NEW RELEASES

The newest accessory from the Badger Air-Brush Co. is a miniaturised air pressure regulator, the PAC (Precision Air Control) valve, that attaches to the bottom of the airbrush. The PAC valve provides a means to easily and precisely adjust the air pressure an airbrush is being sprayed at by the simple turning a small pressure setting dial. Airbrush artist working on projects that require recurring air pressure adjustment, for more efficient atomisation and detail control, will find the PAC Valve a beneficial addition to their airbrushing "tools". The PAC Valve attaches to any Badger/Thayer & Chandler airbrush hose (an adaptor is necessary for use with other brand hoses) and connects to the airbrush with a quick disconnect.

An additional new accessory from Badger Air-Brush Co. is its QD (Quick Disconnect) Coupler. The QD coupler enables the conversion of any standard Badger air hose into a quick disconnect hose. This accessory is a must for multi-airbrush users utilizing a standard Badger airbrush hose (with those adaptors for varying brands) and threading one airbrush off and the next airbrush on when changing airbrushes. The addition of the QD coupler, and male quick disconnects to the airbrushes, makes airbrush changes a snap. A quick disconnect system saves time and increases efficiency to any production finishing process. Badger Air-Brush Co. produces quick disconnects for all major airbrush brands, making the QD coupler a usable accessory with most airbrushes. Badger Air-Brush Co. male QD fittings are sold separately.

For additional information on this new product or any other Badger Air-Brush Co. product, please visit www.badgerairbrush.com



IWM DUXFORD SPECIAL INTEREST DAYS

Special Interest Days are presented by Imperial War Museum Duxford's Department for Learning and feature a range of specialist speakers. There is surely something for all interests within the absorbing range of subjects on offer.

Operation Weserübung (Saturday 1 May) is an exciting war game day that recreates the strategic position of Operation Weserübung and looks at the alternative outcomes of the operation.

Tanks and armoured fighting vehicles of the Second World War (Saturday 12 May) offers a detailed look at ground combat and land warfare during the Second World War.

Operation Herkules (Saturday 16 October) is an exciting war game day that recreates the strategic position of Operation Herkules and looks at the alternative outcomes of the operation.

Surviving the Great War (Saturday 20 November) looks at the human experience of war as endured by the Tommy in the trenches.

Visit the Imperial War Museum Duxford's website at www.iwm.org.uk/duxford for more details of these events and other activities.



ACCURATE ARMOUR SUPACAT KITS

Accurate Armour has announced the release of two 1:35 scale multimedia Supacat kits - the six-wheel Coyote and four-wheel Jackal-2. Both kits should be available by the time you read this. Check out Accurate Armour's website for more details www.accurate-armour.com



COVE MODELS TAKES ON DIORAMA PLUS LINE OF ACCESSORIES IN THE UK

Cove Models has announced that they have been granted exclusive UK distribution rights to the range of ruined buildings and accessories produced by Dioramas Plus from the USA.

The buildings are manufactured from a very tough plaster called Hydrocal, with laser cut wooden doors, windows and acrylic glass. These kits are simple to assemble, and will greatly benefit from careful painting and weathering.

For more information on the Diorama Plus line, check out Cove Models' website at www.covemodels.co.uk

NEW RELEASE 2010



35086 VALENTINE Mk II

NEW RELEASE 2010



35107 STAFF CAR 170V. CABRIO



NEW RELEASE 2010



35622 PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

MINIART FORTHCOMING RELEASES

MiniArt's ambitious release schedule rolls on with announcements of 1:35 scale Valentine Mk.II and Mk.III kits to join their forthcoming Valentine Mk.IV. MiniArt will also be offering a 1:35 scale Mercedes 170V Cabrio Staff Car, a US Motorcycle Repair Crew and a Pedestrian Bridge in its diorama range - some interesting potential for display there!



PLUS MODELS ADDITIONS TO THEIR DIORAMA ACCESSORY RANGE

Plus Models has had a busy time, releasing eleven new 1:35 scale diorama accessories. These include a 23-piece resin lathe (handy for those scale workshops out there), a hand palette truck and palettes, various styles of steel grilles, Israeli, US and German water cans, a wicker suitcase and a 10-piece set for two bentwood chairs.

Plus Models website may be found here www.plusmodels.co.uk



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Think Tank - Austin Tilly goes to War

This is one of Tamiya's decal options. Classic Mickey Mouse scheme, 5th (Highland) Division (red on blue). King George VI and Montgomery on review. Arm of service appears plain blue with 62, but could be dark/bright green of Junior Infantry Brigade. This appears to be the 7th Battalion Black Watch. (IWM)



AUSTIN TILLY GOES TO WAR

Michael Shackleton of the Tilly Register* continues his exploration of this versatile British vehicle.

What do we actually know about where light utility vehicles operated during the war years? We know from contracts that some batches of each mark were ordered for certain forces or even for individual ministries. But where are the hard facts that tell us which vehicles operated in which parts of the world and when? What hard facts are there? In reality, very few. We do not have individual histories for individual vehicles, only some documented evidence of when utilities went through workshops

or maintenance depots for rebuild or overhaul before moving on to another unit, or for sale after active service. Even this evidence is scant. After all, the light utility, or indeed any military vehicle, was never intended to have a long life during wartime, so life expectancy was short. Records exist of individual tanks and other armoured vehicles and the units they fought in - and aircraft and ships, of course - but nobody had the time or inclination to record individual details of such lowly individual vehicles as the Tilly.

So where is the evidence?

The text and images in this Think Tank are extracts from Michael's new book, *Tilly Colours*, available online from <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/1185455> or direct from the author at AMR Design Ltd, Kestrel Court, Vyne Road, Sherborne St John, Basingstoke, RG24 9HJ.

Having searched through photo libraries and innumerable books and other literature, the only real evidence we have is photographic. As long as we have reliable sources such as the Imperial War Museum, we can place our vehicles in time and theatre. From searches that we have made, from contributions from the membership of the Tilly Register* and also from books



and magazines, we can paint an impression of what served where.

Using this photo evidence, we can start from the beginning of the war. Early war (or pre-war) images of Tillys are non-existent other than factory photos. You might imagine that Home Front photos would be fairly numerous,

but we have yet to find any. The earliest photographs we have are from the BEF in France in 1940. One solitary photo shows an Austin Tilly abandoned on the harbour front at Cherbourg. We have yet to find a photo of a Tilly at or around Dunkirk. We do have a couple of photographs of Austin Tillys in German use soon afterwards, so some went to France with the BEF only to be captured. It is strange that we have no photographs in British service at this time.

Moving to the North African desert, we have only two photographs of Austin Tillys in desert camouflage, both taken in late 1940/41 in Libya and Sudan. Both feature the 'Caunter' three-colour scheme, until recently unknown in Tilly world. During the to and fro campaign in North Africa, no more Tillys appear until late 1942 when they start turning up in photos from Tunisia. This suggests that Tillys weren't man enough for the tough desert campaigns and only started to reappear when they could be shipped in from the UK. Indeed, these Tillys still carry the same camouflage used back home. None were repainted in desert colours as there was no need for a small second-line vehicle to be camouflaged as such.

Of course, there is always exceptions to the non-desert camouflage rule. One famous

exception is on Malta, from 1943. Here we have three photographs of Austin Tillys painted in the 'stone wall' camouflage peculiar to the island. I also seem to recall a documentary several years ago about Crete in which an Austin Tilly makes a very brief appearance. However, wartime documentaries made post-war use too many library shots that cannot be relied upon. We have also recently found some photographs of yet another captured Austin Tilly, this time on Cyprus.

The campaign in Sicily and Italy shows us Austins in army usage. The well-known British news reporter, Alan Whicker famously used Austin Tillys in this theatre in his role as a film reporter.

Home Front photographs become more popular after the fall of France. From the end of 1940 until the period immediately before the Normandy landings, we have plenty of evidence of Austin in army use. Of course, the most famous images are of Princess Elizabeth as a young ATS subaltern learning basic mechanics on an Austin Tilly. Allied free forces based in the United Kingdom during this period also made use of Tillys. For instance, we have many photographs of Polish units in particular, using Austin Tillys. They were also widely used by Czech units. Conversely, we have only a couple of photographs of ▶



M48B6642, a rear view of 1st Army R.A. May 1943, Tunisia, Medjed-el-Bab bridge. 'U' indicates Quarter Master vehicle of Medium Artillery Regiment. Probably SCC 2 Brown/SCC IA Dark Brown. Aas 233 red/blue/white. 1552 painted on centre tailgate. QI also on red/blue, but almost looks to be on transparent plate? (IWM)



The subject of the Tamiya box top. MTP 20 SCC 2 Brown on the body (with tilt possibly in MTP46/4A of SCC 2 Brown) and SCC IA Dark Brown. Liberation of The Hague, 1945. AoS I10. Dutch Independent Brigade Group. Princess Irene Brigade badge on left wing with S/C chalked below it. The name Irene was probably added by the driver as this was an unofficial marking to identify his unit from other Dutch units. MTO painted on right wing. White bumper ends. No serial. The left headlight has some kind of identification light attached with a cable running back over the midguard. Any ideas anyone? The other headlight is also non-standard as it appears to have been pinched from a car or motorcycle. This Tilly has a split-top cab. Note that the exhaust exits on the left. Tamiya have the wrong part number for this in their instructions. It should also be extended.

Mentioned in the text is an Austin Tilly, apparently with engine problems, on Nan Beach at Bernières a few weeks after D-Day. (IWM).





Think Tank - Austin Tilly goes to War

◀ Austin Tillys in Royal Navy use. RAF photos from home airfields show Hillman and Standard Tillys, but Austin and Morris Tillys are conspicuous by their absence from the RAF.

Turning to Normandy, there are many photographs of plain or 'Mickey Mouse' camouflaged Austins adorned with Allied stars either in stockpiles before the landings, using the Mulberry harbour or in the vicinity of Bayeux, Port-en-Bessin or Caen. One particular favourite photograph is an Austin on the newly-constructed Bayeux by-pass (built by the British Army) adorned with a huge Allied star roughly painted on the side of the tilt, passing the road sign to Tilly! There's another photograph of an Austin on one of the landing beaches (albeit nearly three

weeks after the landings on Nan beach at Bernieres - although it appears to be broken down with a mechanic under the bonnet!). We can find photographs of Tillys in the Low Countries - Austins in the Netherlands and in Belgium. We have yet to find any Tillys of any kind supporting the RAF in North-west Europe, but our search still continues. The last wartime Tilly picture we know of shows an Austin parked with American vehicles very close to the Führerbunker in Berlin.

No mention has been made of their use in the Far East. This is simply because we have no evidence of such use to date. If they were sent so far afield, we would love to know more. Some Austins were supplied to Australia, but so far we have only one photo of an Austin in a two-tone sand

scheme (time and place unknown) that appears to be in use with the Australian forces.

Most of these photos appear in Tilly Colours which can be ordered from Blurp.com by going to this link: <http://www.blurp.com/my/book/detail/1185455>

Post-war, all marques were still used until the mid-fifties by the British Army. We have photographs of Austins in plain glossy sand on Malta, proudly carrying the George Cross marking and another sandy-coloured Austin at Port Said as late as 1953, according to the caption. Tillys were supplied to some European armies and we have photographs of post-war Danish, Dutch and Portuguese Army Tillys (all Austins). The Greek Army is also said to have used Austins post-war. ■



*Details of the Tilly Register may be found on the web at <http://www.tillyregister.com>. Annual membership is currently just £7.00 (+ four SAEs) or 15 Euros for overseas members for which you get a full-colour quarterly magazine (paper or PDF) with contact to Tilly owners worldwide.

1944. Bayeux by-pass. Approaching the junction to Tilly (our-Sculley's) Serial M539746B splits either side of rear light. An unusual location for the Allied star, very roughly painted on the tilt. (WWM)



NO
SPEEDING
NO
HALT

BAYEUX BY-PASS
NO TRACKS OR AMBULANCES
21 PETROL RE & TN } DEPOTS
CAEN
CREULLY
RIVIERES
DOUVRES
↑
BAYEUX ← **TRUNCY**
→ **TILLY**
FORWARD AREA

Basic details of production changes to Austin Tillys

Date	Chassis no	WD number	Modifications
18-3-40	Typical: 190735 (M4163993) 191346 (M4169976)	M4163993 M4168454-4170202 M224598 M224720 M224722 M224725 M224865 M224977 M224978	Early features included: Wooden tailgate. Wooden toolbox lids. Tilt with top opening and five windows. Hub caps on wheels. Twin headlights (large civilian style). Electric trafficators on both sides. Radiator grille with narrow slats. Civilian-style front seats/padded rear foldable seats From 192577, twin Lucas MD140/1 headlamps.
19-7-40	Typical: 195461 (M4423356) 196040 (M4423959)	M4423021-4425213	From 195055, revised body side panels, tilt hoops and brackets, tilt cover and dividing curtain. Tilt simplified with only three windows. Pressed steel tailboard. From 195734, single MD140/1 headlamp on LH side.
21-8-40	197173-199465	M4467067-4468066	From 199519, bolted hinge supports on windscreens.
12-12-40	Typical: 205175 (M1137392) 205337 (M4533861)	M1136813-1137612 M4533513-4533888	Single headlamp with blackout mask (Lucas L-WD-H1). Early electric trafficators replaced by single manual indicator arm (LH only). Simplified tilt with no top opening and single rear window only.
4-2-42	209501-210750	M4886340-4887589	From 209698, revised front seats with sheet metal backs. Stretched canvas rear seats. From 209889, stretcher rails and tailgate stays. From 211217, revised metal toolboxes and lids. From 212675, split-top cab. From 213058, revised exhaust system with tailpipe exit on left.
28-10-42	217001-222200 Typical: 218573 (M5396213)	M5394641-5400040	From 221319, flanged lifting hubs.



Book Reviews *Extra*

TILLY COLOURS

BY MICHAEL SHACKLETON, MIKE STARMER
PUBLISHED BY BLURB

Michael Shackleton is no stranger to Model Military International magazine, writing our very first Think Tank article back in Issue 39, and as the driving force behind The Tilly Register website and magazine. Michael has joined forces with renowned British military camouflage authority Mike Starmer to deliver the definitive title on the colours and markings of this diminutive yet versatile Utility truck, "Tilly Colours".

This compact soft cover publication is presented over 86 pages and is around 7" square.

The book is logically laid out, commencing with an introduction to development and production of the British Light Utility followed by a primer of British Vehicle Camouflage 1939-45 before getting right into the main subject at hand – Tilly colours. The balance of the book is divided into manufacturer types – Austin, Hillman, Morris and Standard. The format of the book provides large, thoroughly captioned photos of Tillys in all the theatres in which they served, including rare images of these little Utilities in the Middle East and on Malta.

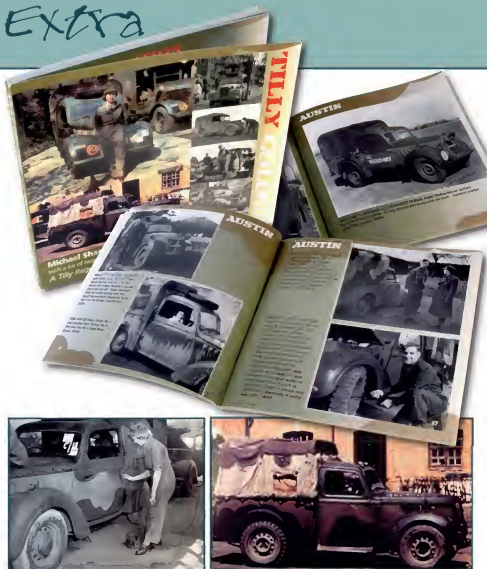
We have experienced a golden era of scale model Tillys in the last few years. In 1:48 scale, we had an Austin Tilly from Tamiya released in 2009, plus the Standard Tilly from Accurate Armour. In 1:35 scale, we have two brand new Austin Tillys – in plastic from Tamiya and in resin from SKP – while Accurate Armour offers a multi-media Hillman version. Tilly Colours is an ideal reference for anyone building any of these kits. The fascinating text and multitude of wartime photos will spur you on with ample inspiration for your modelling project.

The two Mikes have delivered a fantastic resource for Tilly aficionados and modellers alike with this new book. Tilly Colours is a genuine one-stop shop for everything you always wanted to know about the camouflage and markings of this important yet oft neglected vehicle.

Highly Recommended.

Tilly Colours is available online from Blurb.com at <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/1185455> or direct from the author at AMR Design Ltd, Kestrel Court, Wyne Road, Sherborne St John, Basingstoke, RG24 9HJ, UK. The Tilly Register may be found online at www.tillyregister.com

Brett Green





HBB80345
1:48 A-7E Corsair II



HBB80355
1:48 Tornado ADV



HBB82417
1:35 AAVR-7A1 RAM/RS



HBB82443
1:35 M. A1Z 223 Leichter Panzerspähwagen Funk



HBB87245
1:72 Rafale B



HBB80231
1:72 ZILIN Z-42N



HBB83504
1:350 German Navy Type VB-9 U-Boat



MA3548
"Kradschutzten: German Motorcycle Troops on the Move"



MA3559
Deutsches Afrika Korps WWII Era



MIN35050
British Staff Car with Crew



MIN35529
Metal Telegraph Poles



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MIN35530
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Metal Stairs



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Metal Bridge

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ICM48211
Hs126A-1 WWII German Reconnaissance Plane



MIG35320 1:35 Syrian T-55 Conversion



MIG48196 1:48 U.S. Studebaker Closed Cab



MIGABT165 Faded UN White



MIG35350
1:35 Modern Russian Fuel Tank Plumbing Attachments



MIG00417 Rainmarks



MIGABT170 German Grey Highlight

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The Editor gets an early look at Tamiya's brand new 1:35 scale Austin Tilly, and builds it straight from the box.



TILLY TWOFER!

Tamiya released their 1:48 scale British Light Utility Car 10HP in February 2009. This coy labelling was presumably intended to avoid brand trademark complications, but Tamiya's kit represents the Austin Tilly. Around 30,000 of this variant alone were delivered during the Second World War.

Tamiya has now released a 1:35

scale kit of this important British vehicle, but it is much more than a simple upsizing of the earlier offering.

Tamiya's new 1:35 scale British Light Utility Car 10HP comprises 94 parts in olive coloured plastic and five in clear. Markings are supplied for four vehicles.

The new model features a higher level of detail and more options

than the smaller scale Tilly from 2009. For a start, Tamiya's 1:35 scale kit features full engine detail that may be displayed under the separate poseable bonnet. The driver's and passenger's doors are separate parts too.

The chassis and suspension are well done. The interior is fairly basic but quite appropriate for this simple vehicle. The texture of the seats is

very nice. Decals are supplied for the two instrument dials.

A multitude of options are supplied this time around. These include early wooden or later metal tailgate (these may be posed open or closed), short or long exhaust pipes, open or closed rear tilt flap; folded or deployed rear seats; separate hub caps; two styles of radiator grille and various different



The pre-release sprues were delivered in a plain envelope, so a few parts were damaged in transit. Note the long crack in the tilt.



Quite a number of optional parts are provided. Two styles of grilles are supplied.



Clear parts are provided for the windscreen, the side windows and the headlights.



The engine is a little gem. This will still be visible on the completed model thanks to the very nicely fitting bonnet (or hood for our friends across the Atlantic).



One mount for the bumper bar was also broken in transit.

Two styles of exhaust are provided. I was using the longer version. The exhaust pipes are hollow at the ends.

headlights and indicators.

Moulding quality is everything you would expect from a new Tamiya kit - in other words, superb. There are only a few ejector pin circles to deal with on the inside of the doors and the tailgate.

CONSTRUCTION

Building Tamiya's new 1:35 scale Tilly is an enjoyable experience. Construction commences with the tiny but perfectly formed engine. This includes much of the detail of the real thing, including the carburettor, air filter, exhaust manifold, oil filter, dip stick, generator, fan and fan belt. The engine bay also has a battery moulded in place, and a separate radiator. The completed engine assembly is mounted through the opening in the bottom of the chassis - just like the real thing. The rear suspension, differential and drive shaft are moulded as a single piece, but this does not imply a compromise in detail. In fact, the effect of the bottom of the body and the chassis is very

good indeed, despite the ease and speed of assembly.

My pre-release kit was delivered in a plain unpadded envelope, so a few parts were broken or squashed. These included the single-piece tilt, which had a crack from near the top at the front to around halfway along the side. This was quickly repaired with an application of Tamiya Extra Thin Liquid Cement. I decided to depict the tilt open at the rear, so I glued the rolled rear cover in place.

The cargo tray is made up from separate parts for the floor, the sides and the tailgate. Four holes must be drilled in the floor to prepare for installation of the rear seats.

I was not paying adequate attention to the instructions, so I managed to use the wrong tailgate for my chosen option. The early wooden version (Part A6) was glued in place instead of the metal tailgate (Part A1). I did such a thorough job that I could not prise the incorrect part off the back of the cargo tray!

The cracked tilt was quickly repaired with Tamiya Extra Thin Liquid Cement, held in place with tape until it was set.



The engine received a base coat of Tamiya XF-5 Flat Green prior to the various main sub-assemblies being painted.

Although the multi-part body might look a little intimidating at first, the parts all fit together perfectly. My main body shell had been slightly squashed out of shape in transit, but a few rounds of gentle bending persuaded the plastic into its original form. Do

make sure that you remove all trace of the sprue attachments from the body parts though, as any remnants will interfere with the fit. The layers of the body were now added to the chassis - first the tray assembly, then the mudguards over the engine, and finally the main body shell. These were all secured with Tamiya Extra Thin Liquid Cement for a completely gap-free fit. ▶



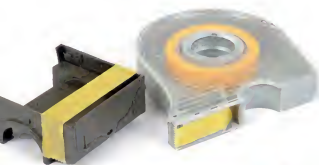
Suspension, transmission and engine detail may be seen through the bottom of the front chassis.



Holes were drilled into the bottom of the tray in preparation for the folding seats.



The bottom of the hinges must be cut off before fitting the tailgate in the closed position.



Tamiya tape was used to squeeze the flat-pack tray together, ensuring no gaps at the tailgate.

Two pins were sliced off the top of the folded seat.



Although the cab was slightly squashed in transit, it was fairly easy to bend it back into shape. A spacing sprue must be cut from the bottom of each side prior to assembly.



PAINTING

I liked the look of the two-tone brown scheme. The instructions offer a formula for mixing SCC2 and SCC1A Brown from Tamiya acrylics, and I followed these to the letter. I mixed up a big batch of the base colour – SCC2 – and stored it in a glass jar. This would avoid problems with mismatching shades if I needed to reapply or touch up this colour after the initial paint job.

The base coat was sprayed before the various body parts were glued together. I figured that this was not a major risk, as test-fitting suggested that there would be no gaps to fill. It also made it easier to finish the interior of the vehicle. Prior to the body shell being added to the vehicle, the decal instrument dials were applied to the dashboard under a brush-painted coat of Future.

The instructions call out for the canvas tilt to be painted the

same colours as the body, but I wanted to depict the fabric as somewhat faded. This was pretty common according to wartime photographs. I added perhaps 15% of Tamiya XF-15 Flat Flesh to my SCC2 mix to deliver this faded shade. I was hoping for a salmon pink shade, and I was not disappointed!

The camouflage pattern was first drawn onto the sides of the tilt with a 2B pencil. Why a 2B pencil? Well, this is a fairly soft and dark pencil, so it will show up well over paint, but it is hard enough to keep its point for a reasonable period between sharpenings. 2B is my pencil of choice.

The outline of the pattern was then painted on with a fine brush, followed by a broader brush painting. The balance of the SCC1A Brown was sprayed with the airbrush.

I took a different tack with the camouflage pattern on the body.



The various sub-assemblies ready to be brought together.

“Although the multi-part body might look a little intimidating at first, the parts all fit together perfectly.”



The engine was painted Flat Green before the sub-assemblies were camouflaged.



The basic engine was masked with Tamiya tape.



The instructions offer a formula for mixing SCC2 Brown using Tamiya acrylics. I mixed up a large batch and stored it in a separate jar.



Details including the air filter, oil filter, fan and manifolds were picked out with a fine brush.



The seats feature subtle textures that are highlighted with subtle weathering.



The interior is basic, but more than adequate straight from the box.



Instruments are supplied as decals. The cab is upside down here, but you get the idea!



The multi-part body includes a separate part for the front mudguards.



Not surprisingly, fit is excellent. The engine still looks good ensconced between the mudguards.



The tilt was painted in a faded shade of salmon pink. The outline of the disruptive pattern was drawn directly onto the painted plastic with a 2B pencil.



The outline was then followed with a fine brush.



The faded SCCIA Brown was brushed close to the border of the camouflage pattern.

First I stuck pieces of Tamiya's wide Kabuki tape to the plastic, then drew the camouflage pattern onto the tape. The tape was then removed, the pattern cut out and reapplied to the body. With all the camouflage sections in place, the dark SCCIA Brown was sprayed in several thin coats over the self-adhesive masks. The masking process took around an hour, but the painting itself was finished in less than ten minutes.

Tamiya supplies decals for the white tips of the front and rear bumper bars, but I thought it would be safer to spray these during the

camouflage process.

The wheels were sprayed SCCIA Brown, then the rims received a brush-painted outline of Tamiya XF-1 Flat Black paint. The wheel rims were then roughly masked with a blob of Blu-Tack. This technique makes painting the tyres very fast and easy, and does not require commercial masks.

As the painting was nearing completion, I decided that I did not really like the salmon shade of the tilt. I also decided to fade the darker SCCIA Brown a bit more. The new light shade was a mix of SCC2 and XF-60 Dark Yellow,

The balance of the dark brown was applied by airbrush.

rendering a more neutral faded colour.

The model now received several thin coats of Future floor polish for a glossy finish in preparation for the kit decals. These performed well, although the "Irene" marking on the front passenger's side fender needed some slicing and Solvaset to get it to sit over the compound curves of the mudguard.

Right at the finishing line I encountered a couple of problems.

First, I dropped one of the tiny dark brown parking lights onto my dark brown carpet. Needless to say, it is lost forever, or at least lost until after this issue of the magazine has gone to the printer!

The second problem was the appearance of white stains on the model after application of decals and settling solutions. This has happened a few times before and fortunately the solution is simple and safe. A fresh coat of ▶

Wide Tamiya "Kabuki" tape was stuck to the car body. The camouflage pattern was drawn with the tape in place. It was then removed, cut out and reapplied.



The white tips of the bumper bars were sprayed and then masked before the final camouflage coat.



Five minutes of painting followed more than an hour of masking.



My favourite part - the masking tape is removed to reveal the camouflage colours.



The faded tilt offered some contrast, but I thought the light colour was a bit too pink. This was eventually repainted.



Several thinly sprayed coats of Future floor polish prepared the model for decals.



The white patches on the mudguards appeared following application of Mark Mark Softer and Solvaset.



Although it is hard to see here, the Future has run and pooled near the bottom of the door.



The white marks disappeared under a further thin coat of Future.



The wheels were sprayed SCGIA Brown, then the rims received an outline of Tamiya XF-1 Flat Black paint. The wheel rims were then roughly masked with a blob of Blu-Tack.



This makes painting the tyres very fast and easy.

Future floor polish was sprayed over the offending marks and they obligingly disappeared.

The entire vehicle was sprayed with Gunze H20 Flat Clear. For some reason I could not obtain the usual dead flat finish even after several coats, so I added a blob of Tamiya Flat Base to the airbrush paint cup. That did the trick.

Weathering was kept to a bare minimum. A thin dark oil wash was applied to the tailgate and to the flaps and ropes on the tilt. Mig Pigments were used sparingly on the wheels.

The inside of the headlight was painted silver and the clear lens secured with Gator's Acrylic Glue. The windscreen was masked and the border sprayed black before being glued in place too. The side windows are separate parts. I left the driver's side window off to suggest that it had been rolled down, but the passenger's side window was glued from the inside.

The handle of the shovel was

painted XF-60 Dark Yellow, then streaked with X-26 Clear Orange before a coat of Gunze Flat Clear.

CONCLUSION

Tamiya has delivered another cleverly engineered, easy to build and nicely detailed kit with their British Light Utility Car 10HP.

Remarkably, I did not use so much as a smear of filler anywhere on this kit. In fact, the fit was so good that I have not glued the doors, the bonnet nor the tilt in place. All of these may be removed to display more of the kit's detail.

Comparisons with SKP's 2009 release Austin Tilly are inevitable, and we will take a closer look at that kit in the coming pages. In summary though, it is certain that Tamiya's kit will be a faster build with superior fit. Tamiya's inclusion of a full engine bay and numerous options will be a real advantage too.

I thoroughly enjoyed building Tamiya's newest 1:35 scale kit. ■



Modelspec

Tamiya 1:35 scale British Light Utility Car 10HP
Item No. 35308

Paints used

Tamiya Acrylics: X-18 Semi Gloss Black; X-21 Flat Base; X-26 Clear Orange; XF-1 Flat Black; XF-2 Flat White; XF-3 Flat Yellow; XF-5 Flat Green; XF-10 Flat Brown; XF-15 Flat Flesh; XF-59 Desert Yellow; XF-60 Dark Yellow; XF-62 Olive Drab; XF-64 Red Brown; XF-68 NATO Brown
Tamiya Spray: Fine White Primer; TS-34 Camel Yellow
Vallejo Model Colour: 997 Silver
Gunze-Sangyo Aqueous: H20 Flat Clear

Other Materials

Revell Contacta Professional Cement, Tamiya Extra Thin Liquid Cement, Gator's Acrylic Glue, Selly's Super Glue, Mig Pigments, Mig Filters

✓ Attractive and versatile subject; easy to build; high level of detail; useful options.

✗ A few ejector pin marks.

Available from

All good model shops Worldwide. Distributed in the UK by The Hobby Company Limited. www.hobbyco.net

Rating ●●●●●●●●



“Remarkably, I did not use so much as a smear of filler anywhere on this kit.”



I incorrectly used the wooden tailgate instead of the later metal item.



Here we can see the tint in its new shade of faded SCC2 and SCC1A.

Weathering has been kept to a minimum on this model, and not only because I was working to a short deadline!



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A LADY IN THE WOODS

SKP has recently released a 1:35 scale Austin Tilly kit. Jose Brito builds and details this multi-media offering.

Launched in 1932, the Austin 10 was one of that company's best-selling passenger cars and remained in production until 1947. The Austin Tilly was the military version of the Austin 10, and made an enormous but often neglected contribution to the transport and communications effort in many theatres of war. It was seen almost everywhere. Thousands were built and they had a very important role supporting Allied logistics. Tillys and other utilitarian vehicles might not share the glamour of the Sherman, Tiger or King Tiger but their role was immensely important for the final victory. Until very recently, the big kit manufacturers have ignored the Tilly too.

The Tilly could go virtually anywhere and was a much appreciated vehicle by its crews and military in general. Its capacity to carry troops and material was immense and well needed.

SKP'S 1:35 SCALE TILLY

SKP released their multi-media Austin Tilly kit in 2009, some months before Tamiya's plastic Tilly was announced.

The SKP kit is very nice, featuring high levels of detail, good plastic, thorough instructions and in-register decals. The kit is a real multi-media feast composed of plastic, resin and photo-etched parts. The box art is a picture of a refurbished Tilly and. The instructions are clear, concise and easy to follow. Divided in 19 steps, they guide us through a straightforward construction.

The decals in the box are for four different versions. Two are for Czechoslovak vehicles in WWII and another two represent restored vehicles.

CONSTRUCTION

SKP's 1:35 scale Tilly is a fine kit although it does suffer from some fit problems. Even so, with some



The kit comprises mainly plastic parts, with resin and photo-etch as well



Two of the marking options represent wartime vehicles.

The remaining two are restored examples, although the "brick" scheme was seen on Malta during WWII.



The limited-run plastic parts do require some extra time and care in preparation. Here, large raised knockput pins are about to be sliced off.



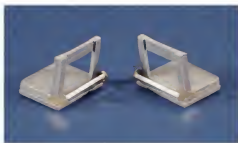
The basic assemblies go together quickly. Note that the driver's and passenger's doors are moulded shut.



The basic seats were detailed with wire frame bases.



Photo-etched parts were prepared with the help of "The Bug" Hold and Fold Workstation from the Small Shop.



The folding rear sets were also upgraded with some minor scratch building.



The front grille was softened by annealing and rolled into shape using the Small Shop's Deluxe Brass Rolling Set.



The full sized Hold and Fold was used to bend other small brass pieces into shape.

care and patience the SKP Tilly will build up into a great model.

Construction is straightforward. The clear and concise instructions are divided in 19 steps. During construction I found some stages more difficult than others so I had to make some adjustments and extra work in order to achieve a better fit. The main challenge was fitting the cabin roof to the main body. Lots of sanding and cutting

was required at this stage.

The tilt provided in the kit is vacuum formed in clear plastic. The detail is nice, but once painted and in place it will completely hide the cargo area so I decided not to use the canvas tilt over the tray. I wanted to display the entire cargo area and permit a better view of the driving compartment. I therefore scratch built the frame that supports the canvas in fine

metal wire.

For the transparencies, SKP provides a clear plastic sheet and we must cut the windows into shape. This task demands some care and extra planning. Also gluing the windows into the interior parts can also be complicated.

The interior was detailed with some minor additional items like a map and a newspaper. These small details can tell a story about

our model and add interest. Other parts like the seat supports were also detailed with scratch built parts mainly from plastic and metal wire.

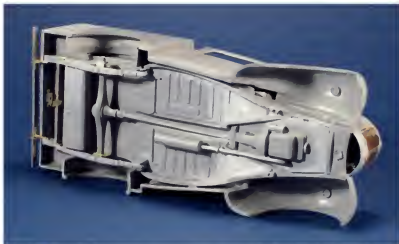
As the Tilly is an open topped vehicle I decided to build it in subassemblies. This would help during the painting process.

PAINTING

SKP's Tilly model is composed ▶



The grille has been glued to the basic body in this photo.



The chassis and bottom of the body are fairly well detailed, but the solid floor surrounding the engine block is not accurate.



Photo-etched tie-downs and a scratch built frame for the tarp have been fitted here.



You can see the large gap between the bonnet and the windscreen in the picture above. More details have been added too.

The tarp frames are simply pieces of wire cut to size and bent to shape.

of different materials. The main parts are in plastic and the smaller ones are in resin and photo etch, so a model like this needs extra attention when it comes down to the painting process.

All the subassemblies were primed with the new Vallejo Acrylic grey primer. This primer has a superb finish and the surface gets a very smooth touch. When thoroughly dry, all the subassemblies were put together in order to uncover any construction flaws before the application of camouflage paint.

The next step was to airbrush the subassemblies in Tamiya Acrylic XF-62 Olive Green. This colour was airbrushed in several well-diluted layers in order to maintain the delicate surface

detail.

The SKP kit provides decals for four different versions. I chose to build my model in the colours of the Czechoslovak Independent Brigade Group, HQ, Southampton, August 1944. This version has camouflage composed of two colours. Before I started painting, I drew the outline of the camouflage pattern with a fine pencil.

The camouflage was then painted by brush with Vallejo Model Color acrylics. These paints have a nice fine pigment, dry fast and are ideal for brush painting. The Tilly is a small vehicle and very soon the camouflage was done.

At this point, some of the subassemblies received identical treatment and small details were painted also in Vallejo Model Color

acrylics. The dashboard lenses were picked out with gloss varnish from Vallejo Model Air.

Once the paint on all the subassemblies was dry, I started assembling the elements. I found it impossible to get a nice join between the main body and the cabin roof. A huge gap was noticeable and almost impossible to fix. Even after lots of sanding I seemed no closer to a solution.

I decided to position a camouflage net over this flaw. I had a tissue net in my spare parts box and I just had to add some small details made by foil cut into small strips. The strips were randomly twisted and then glued into place.

Also during this stage I tested a few items in the rear cargo tray. One of the items was a Jagdtiger

front wheel but then I decided not to use it. It seemed too heavy and also historically inaccurate.

Small scratches were applied with the help of a sponge and a brand new fine brush. The paints used were from Vallejo Model Color range and were essentially the base colours lightened with some light flesh colour.

The entire model received a coat of Klear applied by brush. This prepared the surface for the decals. The surface, previously painted in matt colours, now had a very smooth and shiny look, ideal to work with decals.

The decals were applied with the help of Vallejo decal solutions, in this case Vallejo Decal Fix and Vallejo Decal Medium. The first prepares the surface to receive



Vallejo's grey primer was used to highlight any problem areas.



The various sub-assemblies received a base camouflage coat of XF-62 Olive Green.



The camouflage outline was drawn on to the model with a fine pencil using the painting instructions as a guide.



The disruptive camouflage pattern was painted on by brush.



A newspaper and some other details were added to the cabin to add an air of authenticity.



Vallejo gloss varnish was applied to the lenses of the instrument dials before the cabin roof was glued into place.



The seats benefited from subtle weathering and the daily rag.



The windows are strictly a do-it-yourself affair. These were cut from the supplied sheet of clear acetate after the outline was drawn with a bright red marker.



The red marker outline was removed by a bath in 96% alcohol.



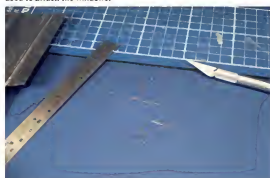
"Roket" odourless and non-fogging super glue was used to attach the windows.



The solution to the big gap behind the bonnet was to camouflage it with a net.



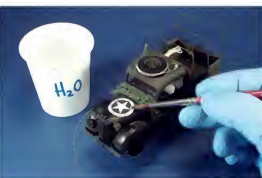
Thin lead sheet was cut into narrow strips.



In turn, these were cut into shorter lengths.



The short strips represent Hessian tape seen in British camouflage nets.



Decals were applied over a coat of Future floor polish.

the decal and the last is a decal softener. In the end and with the decals completely dry, a coat of Vallejo Model Air matt varnish was brushed over the decals to protect them during weathering and finishing.

WEATHERING AND FINISHING

This step started with a wash of Winsor & Newton O2 Burn Sienna, 25 Lamp Black and 35 Raw Umber, all well diluted with Winsor &

Newton Sansodor (Low Odour Solvent). The wash was applied with a medium flat brush all over the recessed parts.

Once the oils had dried, small details were picked with Vallejo Wash 73200 Sepia Shade and 73201 Black Shade. These are acrylic and don't mix with the oils previously applied. They also dry very fast so soon we can start applying the pigments.

I have been using the new

pigments from Vallejo and they are great. The range of colours is also quite diverse. I use several colours all mixed together and applied them with a medium flat brush. They are applied in the logical places and care is needed to prevent going overboard. When all the pigments were in place, small drops of Winsor & Newton Sansodor (Low Odour Solvent) were applied over the pigments. These act as a pigment fixer. When we place the drops over the pigments, they almost disappear and the model turns very dark, but don't panic. When fully dry they will reappear in their full colour and realistic look.

BASE AND DIORAMA

As usual, my models are placed in bases or dioramas. Some are more complex than others, but all the times I place them in a surrounding context. The Tilly was no exception and I followed my usual approach. A wood base and balsa wood formed the sidewalls. The interior

was filled with oasis foam. This is an easy to find material, lightweight and easy to work it.

The terrain is a mix of water, acrylic paint, very fine sand and Robbialac Aquaplast. Robbialac Aquaplast is a pre made filler widely used in the civil construction. It is water based and very easy to work. The mix looks like real earth and once dry it is rock hard.

The vegetation came from several brands, like MiniNatur, Treemendus and Model Scene. A natural look vegetation demands careful observation of the real world and some references are helpful too. The best approach is to take some pictures of a real landscape and look carefully to duplicate the natural appearance.

The tree is made from a well dried spring green root from my grandmother's backyard. The volume was achieved with synthetic sponge, which was then pulverized with UHU Power Spray glue. While the glue was wet, a ►

Vallejo pigments were used for additional weathering.



When all the pigments were in place, small drops of Winsor & Newton Sansodor (Low Odour Solvent) were applied over the pigments.



Stowage was added to the tray to lend more interest in this area.

The decals were set with Vallejo Decal Fix and Vallejo Decal Medium.



◀ mix of several leaves in different colours was placed on the tree. To remove the excess we just need to shake the tree. The process must be repeated until we get the desired look. The final tree was glued in place with the help of Deluxe Materials Rocket Rapid cyano glue.

A wooden fence was planned and made from real wood. I used wooden tongue depressors. They are cheap, easy to find and the wood - really nice. Small strips were cut and assembled with the help of Tamiya masking tape and Deluxe Materials Rocket Max glue. This is very thick, non runny super glue. The drying time is long, which allows plenty of time for corrections or repositioning the elements. Once assembled, the fence was primed with Vallejo Grey Primer and airbrushed with Vallejo Model Air Green 71006.

The fence weathering started by applying several paint chips with help of a small sponge. The colours used were the Vallejo Model Color 928 Light Flesh and Vallejo Model Color 833 SS Cam. Bright Green.

When this paint had dried, the fence was glued in place and received a wash of Winsor & Newton No. 35 Raw Umber, heavily thinned with Winsor & Newton Artist's White Spirit.

The terrain was dry brushed with a mix of Winsor & Newton N.o 29 Naples Yellow Hue, N.o 35 Raw Umber and N.o 40 Titanium White. The brush must be flat and medium sized.

The final step was to apply dry pastels and small drops of & Newton Artist's White Spirit, acting as pigment fixer.

FIGURE

The figure is also from SKP. She is their new figure of an Auxiliary Territorial Service Driver. The figure is entirely made from resin, with superb detail and flawless casting. She also bears a strong resemblance to HRH Princess Elizabeth!

Assembly is very straightforward. Some small gaps were treated with Tamiya Putty and Mr. Surfacer 500 and 1000. The figure was then airbrushed with Vallejo Grey Primer.

The flesh areas were airbrushed with Tamiya Acrylics XF-15 Flat Flesh, well diluted in order to keep the surface detail. The nylons were airbrushed with Tamiya Acrylics XF-62 Olive Green over the Tamiya Acrylics XF-15 Flat Flesh, then all the flesh areas were painted with Winsor & Newton oils. The balance of painting was completed using Vallejo Model Color.

The figure was finished off with a coat of Testor's matt varnish.

CONCLUSION

The new 1:35 scale Austin Tilly from SKP is a nice kit. Although the fit is challenging in places, and the clear parts are a bit of a pain, with some care it can be turned into a great and unique model.

SKP's new figure of an ATS Driver is great and a nice accompaniment to our Tilly model. In my opinion, the main negative point is the decals for two restored vehicles.

This was my first kit from SKP and I loved it. The kit can be turned into a great model and displayed in a nice scene with lots of character. ■

The vegetation came from several brands, including MiniNatur, Treemendus and Model Scene.

The terrain is a mix of water, acrylic paint, very fine sand and Robbialac Aguplast.



Acknowledgements

I just want to express my appreciation to everyone who helped me out with this project.

Modelspec

SKP 1:35 Austin 100hp Light Utility Truck

Item SKP 009

Kits used

SKP 1:35 ATS Driver Samantha, Item SKP 007

Materials & Paints used

Hood glue, Deluxe Materials glue solutions, Heat isolation foam, Wood base, Injected plastic, Resin parts, Plastic card, Metal parts, Vallejo acrylics, Vallejo washes, Vallejo pigments, Vallejo Grey Primer, Tamiya acrylics, Dry Pastels, Oil colours, Derwent and Faber Castell soft pencils, AquaPlast - Robbialac, Fine sand, Plus Model Lead Wire

References used

Several internet sites and forums

✓ The SKP Tilly is a very nice kit. The figure, also from SKP, is just lovely.

✗ Clear plastic windows are a challenge; some fit issues.

Available from

SKP kits are available from their website and retailers worldwide www.skpmodel.eu

Rating ●●●●●○○○

The fence was made from real wood.
I used wooden tongue depressors.
The excellent driver figure is also from SKP.



THE IDEAL REFERENCE FOR YOUR TILLY MODEL PROJECT!

Newly published from Mike Shackleton of the 'Tilly Register' and world-renowned expert on British wartime vehicle colour, Mike Starmar, Tilly Colours provides the perfect reference source to help you get your Tilly to look just right...

THE TILLY COLOURS MICHAEL SHACKLETON, MIKE STARMER

The intention of Tilly Colours is to highlight the many and varied colour schemes applicable to Tillys during the war years. Indeed, the general colours here are equally applicable to other British military vehicles of the period. The problem of identifying British wartime colours has always been a tricky one. Throughout the war, there were many interpretations of not only the official camouflage schemes, but also of the colours themselves. Michael Shackleton has compiled this profile using mainly black and white photographs of wartime Tillys with the invaluable help of Mike Starmar who has long

been recognised for his work in identifying these colours and patterns.

Virtually every photograph in the book is a black and white picture of a Tilly in military service during the war. The book contains a colour explanation so that the photographs can be usefully interpreted. In most cases, an illustration of, and explanation of, the vehicle's unit markings is provided. It opens up a wealth of suggestions for accurate liveries that would be appropriate for use on either a restored vehicle or a scale miniature. The book is designed to be equally useful to both modellers and vehicle restorers/owners proving



that there is more than just one plain green colour scheme available to them and that British wartime camouflage is equally as interesting as those used by the opposing Axis forces. Illustrated with eighty-eight wartime photographs and numerous drawings and unit badges. eighty pages plus covers.



Available from **www.adhbooks.com**

Please note this publication is a limited print run and therefore retails at £15.95, plus packaging and shipping.



Academy 1:35 M50 Ontos USMC



Brach Model 1:35 Bianchi Miles Italian truck

SPIELWARENMESSE 2010, A MARVELLOUS, MODELLING SMÖRGÄSBORD!

Marcus Nicholls from TMMI brings news of tasty military model releases for 2010...

The Nuremberg Toy Fair has come and gone for another year and within those vast exhibition halls there were literally hundreds of new kits and accessories waiting to be tracked down... The Toy Fair isn't just a place for the big players to show off their wares though - the smaller producers

were present as well, displaying everything from photo-etched sets, resin upgrades, conversions, materials, equipment and more and this element greatly enriches the whole experience.

So, here's my photo-report from the 2010 event. It is by no means all-inclusive, but hopefully it gives you an



1:35 Women at War USN 'WAVES' (male sailor with parrot included!)



Dragon 1:35 Panzer III ausf. N with Schurzen



MiniArt 1:35 Valentine Mk.IV. The model shown here is not the new kit, it's the old Valentine from Alan, used for display purposes



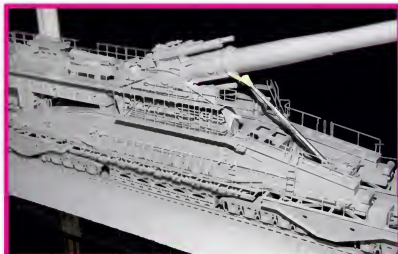
Plus Model 1:35 German L4500A railway truck (conversion for Zvezda)



SKP 1:35 Bedford WW2 British truck



Zvezda 1:35 Maultier 4500R



Hobbyboss 1:72 Dora railgun



Tamiya 1:48 Marder III



Aber's own PE folding device in the way



Aber photo-etched set for Tamiya 1:35 Citroën IICV

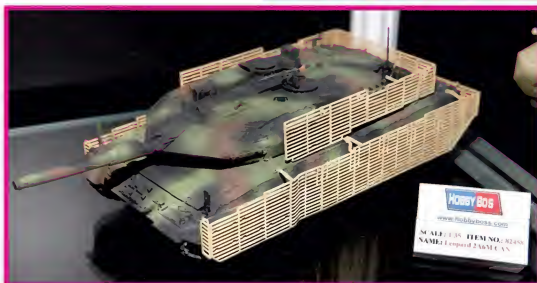


Brach Model 1:35 Panzer III ausf.B (complete kit)



Brach Model 1:35 resin tracks and suspension for Italian P40 tank

Hobbyboss 1:35
VK.1602 Leopard



Hobbyboss 1:35 Leopard 2A6M with bar armour



Warriors (Squadron Products) 1:35 AARV-7 crane boom crew



MiniArt 1:35 French Street (1940s)



Trumpeter 1:35 Voroshilovets tractor



Trumpeter 1:35 Up armoured BMP-3

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GESCHÜTZWAGEN TIGER GRILLE 21/210MM MORTAR 18/1 L/31 TM01540

TRUMPETER **COMING SOON!** **1:35**



KV-1M 1939 TM01561

RODEN **1:35**



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EMHAR **1:72**



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CAMO CORNER - Standard Camouflage Colours for Middle East - Part 1

STANDARD CAMOUFLAGE COLOURS FOR MIDDLE EAST

Ref. No.
CRME/31477/4 G.S.D.

G. SD. 4
GHQ. MEF

PART ONE BSC COMPARISON AND SOFT SKIN VEHICLES

William Marshall presents an analysis of an important source documents describing the contentious camouflage colours used by British and Commonwealth military vehicles during the WWII campaign for the Middle East and North Africa. In Part One, William introduces the documents and takes a close look at the camouflage used on soft skin vehicles in the Middle East.

STANDARD CAMOUFLAGE COLOURS FOR MIDDLE EAST

Middle East General Order (MEGO) No 1272 dated 5 December 1941 has always been interesting to me. Not only does it change the paint colours for the Middle East but it is the first Order

to quote Standard Camouflage Colours for Middle East (SCCME) and reference them to British Standard Colours (BSC) colours.

In this Order we first come across the mention of this unique system for the Middle East. These numbers have been a contentious issue for a very long time and nobody that I know has been able to explain them to me.

Imagine my surprise when I came across a booklet called Standard Camouflage Colours for Middle East.

It was issued by GHQ MEF under the file reference of CRME/31477/4 G.S.D without any specific date. No other information can be gained from the booklet other than 23 paint chip specimens numbered from 1 to 23. The MEGO is shown in full to the right.



1272. Camouflage — Painting of Vehicles, A.F.V.s. and Artillery

1. In future, all vehicles, A.F.V.s. and Artillery, camouflaged in the Middle East will be painted with a minimum of four colours. These will be: LIGHT STONE, BRITISH STANDARD Colour No. 44 M.F. Standard Colour No. 23, PORTLAND STONE, British Standard Colour No. 64 M.F. Standard Colour No. 11, according to supplies available.

2. One contrasting colour may be selected to complete the camouflage scheme.

3. Contrasts will have what appear, if possible, to be in addition to the basic colour, so that a definite edge may be obtained.

4. Care will be taken not to apply paint to the instrument

General Orders No. 227 of 1940 and 235 of 1941 are amended.

Issued 10/12/1941 (Applicable to all Theatres, M.E.F.)

J. H. M. 145/G. 3

The order supplies us with two very important clues for the identification of paint colours. Using known BSC colours we can identify two of the SCCME colours. a. Light Stone BSC 61 is identified as SCCME 23. b. Portland Stone BSC 64 is identified as SCCME 11.

If one deduces that these Middle East colours are linked to the BS system, then a shade like BSC 34 Slate should also be one of the paint colours included in this booklet. To be able to make any meaningful deductions it is imperative to have primary research material at hand.

I am now using three primary research objects for my article, an original November 1930 issue of the BSC Standard, and original September 1942 issue of BS 987 C and the newly found Standard Camouflage Colours for Middle East as yet undated.

I have made a comparison of the other two colours for the Caunter scheme by using my available reference and also original paint chips as supplied by Mike Starmore and have come up with the following:
a. BSC 34 Slate compares with SCCME No 16.
b. BSC 28 Silver Grey compares with SCCME No 21.

No. 381—1930.

British Standards Institution
Incorporated by Royal Charter
FORMERLY
British Engineering Standards Association
FOUNDED IN 1901 AS THE ENGINEERING STANDARDS COMMITTEE.

BRITISH STANDARD SCHEDULE OF COLOURS FOR READY-MIXED PAINTS.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY THE BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION,
PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT,
38, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1.
Telegrams: Standards, London.

November, 1930.

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Price 1/6 net. Post Free 7/6.

An original copy of the BSC standard dated 1930 was used for the comparison.

An image of all the original colour samples from the document, "Standard Camouflage Colours for Middle East".



Once comparisons have been made we start to get a picture and understanding as to what the colour schemes may have looked like. The Caunter scheme is one of the schemes that has created much debate. A lot of myth was transformed to "fact" over many years. I am still of the firm belief that there was no blue colour in this scheme as depicted by some modellers and model paint manufacturers. I have most of the Middle East General Orders and Army Council Instructions issued during WWII in my possession which relate to Middle East colours and there is no mention of a blue colour in any of them.

It was surprising to find how easy it was to compare and identify the MESCC to the known colours like BS 987C and the Caunter colours. All comparisons are mine and based on my analysis of the stated references. Any names coupled to colours are my interpretation of the available

evidence.

If this SCCME booklet is a find of significance then it will hopefully clear up a number of issues which has caused much debate.

- First issue: as mentioned before, there is no Blue colour in this booklet or in the later BS 987C for that matter.
- Second Issue: Portland Stone is a rich yellow/mustard colour and BSC 61 Lightstone is much lighter and has more yellow to it.

Colours that do not have a BS 987C or BSC colour may be colours used prior to 1943. One that comes to mind is SCCME 12, which is a rich cream colour. This was possibly used as one of the camouflage colours on the Vickers Medium Mk. II tanks of the 6RTC at Gizera 12 May 1937. SCCME 12 may have been retained as a camouflage paint colour. It may also be the outline colour used to camouflage some of Sherman tanks later in the Middle East campaign.



BSC 34 Slate compared with MESCC NO 16.

BSC 28 Silvergrey compared with MESCC NO 21.



CAMO CORNER - Standard Camouflage Colours for Middle East - Part 1

THE CAUNTER SCHEME

The Caunter scheme had its origin in GO 279 of 1940. This order has been published in various books and magazines in detail. What is of interest is the fact that it spells out the colour scheme very specifically. This scheme was implemented with design diagrams of which a couple are still available today. The units involved who did the painting did not always strictly adhere to the diagrams and many variations can be found. A good example is the many variations

found in the scheme painted on the Stuart (Honey) tanks.

Some of the original diagrams have faults. The drawing for the Marmon-Herrington armoured car has a drafting mistake in it and the scheme as depicted in the diagram is impossible to reproduce on a vehicle. It is of utmost importance for modelers to make use of photographs when trying to reproduce an authentic Caunter scheme. Even my drawings I have based on photos rather than the diagrams.



One of only a small number of known colour photos showing the Caunter scheme. (Photo: Public domain)

SCCME COMPARISON TO KNOWN COLOURS

ME
SCC 1



SCC 2

ME
SCC 2



SCC 4

ME
SCC 3



SCC 5

ME
SCC 4



SCC 7

ME
SCC 5



ME
SCC 6



SCC 11A

ME
SCC 7



SCC 11B

ME
SCC 8



SCC 12

ME
SCC 9



SCC 14

ME
SCC 10



ME
SCC 11



BSC 64
PORTLAND
STONE

ME
SCC 12



ME
SCC 13



ME
SCC 14



SCC 1A

ME
SCC 15



ME
SCC 16



BSC 34
SLATE

ME
SCC 17



ME
SCC 18



SCC 10

ME
SCC 19



ME
SCC 20



SCC 13

ME
SCC 21



BSC 28
SILVERGREY

ME
SCC 22



ME
SCC 23



BSC 61
LIGHTSTONE

The Standard
Camouflage Colours
for Middle East
compared to other
known colours.

© JDS, MARSHALL 2009

FORD SEDAN STAFF CAR (MODEL 1940)

The Ford Model 1940 was the most abundant staff car used in the Middle East. It was used by most Allied nations and we find them camouflaged with typical Caunter colours early in the Desert Campaign.

One of the best examples known was the vehicle used by the South African Public Relations Unit attached to the GHQ, ME used to transport Field Marshall J.C. Smuts around on some of his many tours to the ME.

Some variations in the scheme exist and it is best to use a photo to determine an exact scheme.

This scheme was later changed to overall single colour of desert sand.

Image 1: A Ford staff car being helped while stuck in the mud, the vehicle carries the emblem of the SA Public Relations Unit attached to GHQ Middle East.

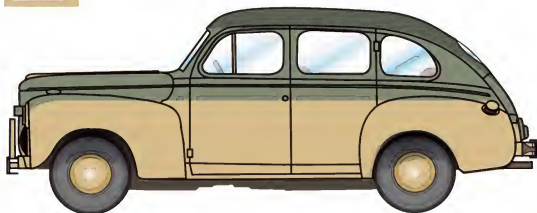
Image 2: A Ford staff car with WD number M234423 being used by Field Marshal Smuts during his visit to the Middle East.

Image 3: A example of a New Zealand Ford showing some battle fatigue and the Arm of Service of Black 91.

Image 4: The Ford staff car of the SA Public Relations Unit in the Caunter scheme.



Emblem of the
SA Public
Relations Unit.





FIELD ARTILLERY TRACTOR (FAT)

The Morris CB Field Artillery Tractor's camouflage scheme has been depicted in a wrong pattern in various books, especially the rear section of the vehicle. This profile may go far in setting the record right.

Usually the limber and gun were also camouflaged.

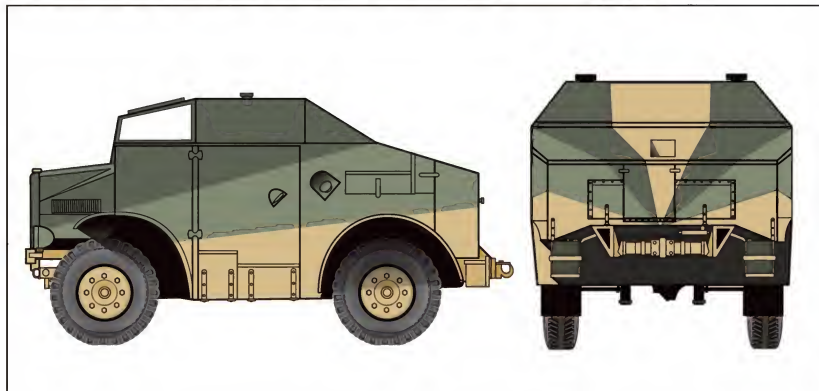


Rear view of a FAT clearly showing the correct pattern.



A FAT towing a 25 Pdr field gun and limber. Note that both are also disruptively camouflaged.

A Field Artillery Tractor in the Counter scheme, showing the pattern on the rear of the vehicle.



CHEVROLET AMBULANCE

Ambulances used in the desert are difficult to identify as the Ford, Chev and Dodge were similar in appearance.

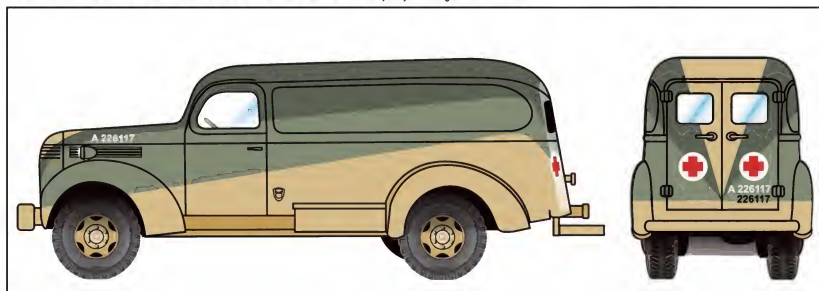
This Chevrolet ambulance has been disruptively camouflaged before orders prohibited the camouflaging of medical vehicles. Of interest is the Red Cross emblems which would obviously defeat the object of disruptive camouflage. The WD number was painted in White on the bonnet.



Three views of a Chevrolet ambulance painted in the Caunter scheme. This finish was applied before orders prohibited the disruptive painting of medical vehicles.



A Chevrolet Ambulance finished in the Caunter scheme before instructions were issued not to disruptively camouflage medical vehicles.





DORCHESTER ARMoured COMMAND VEHICLE

This captured example used by the Afrika Korps for HQ purposes is well known and may be seen in many photos taken in North Africa.

The Dorchester was a favoured and highly prized vehicle for the Afrika Korps. The Germans did not

change the camouflage scheme but only added markings and some more blotches in their own colours.

White 5 may be seen in some photos taken before its capture still being used by the British. Photos from the Imperial War Museum show it in detail.



A rear view of the scheme with added German DAK markings.

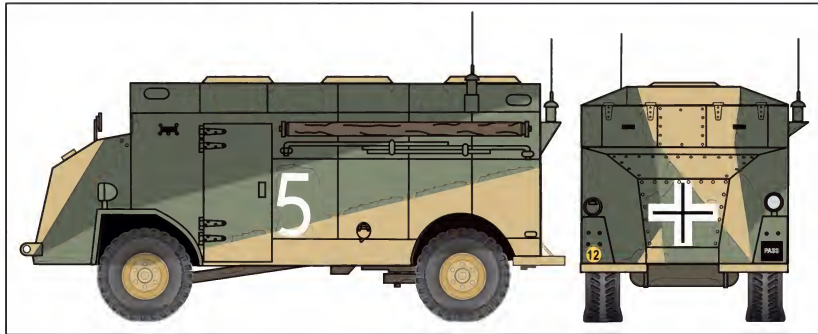


Light Stone (MESCC 23 or BSC 61) was sometimes called out as an alternative to Portland Stone (MESCC 11 or BSC 64) as the pale colour used in the Caunter Scheme



A front view showing the non-standard German cross.

One of the AEC Dorchester command vehicles used by the German high command in the desert still in its original Caunter colours.



AUSTIN UTILITY

Photographs showing the use of the Austin Tilly in the desert campaign wearing the Caunter scheme is limited to two examples. One of these is from a crop of a photos showing other vehicles with the Austin in the background. This is hardly suited for profiling as it is very fuzzy.

The Tilly was not a vehicle that one would normally find on front line duties, and this may be the reason why it escaped the photographer.

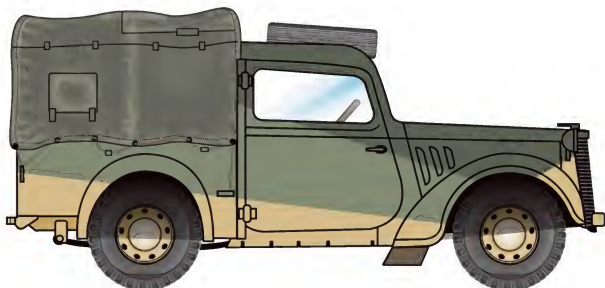


A side view of one of only a small number of photos showing the Austin Utility in the Caunter scheme. (Photo: via Mike Starmey)



Khaki Green (MESCC 20 or BSC 3) was sometimes called out as an alternative to Slate (MESCC 16 or BSC 34) as the darker colour used in the Caunter Scheme

The profile of a Austin Utility in the Caunter scheme.



THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN



Andy King takes on Trumpeter's 1:35 scale Sd.Kfz. 7 half-track, adding Eduard photo-etch and a few home-made improvements of his own along the way.

The 8 ton Sonder Kraftfahrzeug (Sd. Kfz.) 7 series was designed primarily as a prime mover for artillery pieces. Designed and built by Krauss Maffei and later sub contracted to Bussing-Nag and Borgward, the first version (KM 7) entered service in the mid 1930's eventually being superseded by the final version (KM 11) which had a longer chassis and extra set of road wheels.

The '7' series served throughout the duration of WWII on all fronts and as is usual with German vehicles of this period, the basic chassis was used for other models such as the 7/1 and 7/2 Flak gun carriers, cargo carriers and V-2 rocket command vehicles.

THE MODEL

Trumpeter's 1:35 scale Sd.Kfz. 7 model depicts an early version and features a lot of detail, particularly the chassis. Some details though are from preserved examples, such as the front tyres but these will be addressed in the main article. There are two sheets of photo-etched parts included that are very useable but for this build I will also be using the Eduard set too. Some clean up of parts is required but nothing really outrageous except for the ejector pin marks underneath the fenders and the rear body.

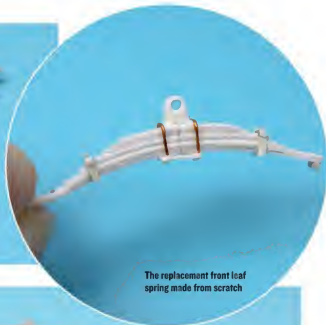
The supplied etch will need annealing by passing it through the flame of a gas cooker or similar otherwise you won't be able to bend it - trust me on this!



Trumpeter's basic chassis assembly



The front leaf spring as supplied in the kit



The replacement front leaf spring made from scratch



The front leaf spring in place in front of the steering rack.

CONSTRUCTION

The most logical place to begin any vehicle like this is the chassis, however I jumped ahead to Step 3 as this assembly is crucial in obtaining a strong and square chassis. Once it is set you then assemble the chassis sides and cross-member, making sure it's left on a flat surface overnight. The transmission in Step 1 can be left off until the end as there is enough flex in the chassis to fit it later. Also the front leaf spring is not brilliant so I made a new one from

thin plastic strip and fitted it later.

The engine is a good replica of the Maybach HL 62. All that is missing is the fan and alternator belts plus the wiring. The only problem is that part E12 should be on the opposite side and not as shown in the drawing.

As we go on, more bits are added to the chassis including the winch. Trumpeter supplies a length of rather furry cotton to use as the tow cable. This was promptly filed under B (for bin) and replaced with nylon thread. The end of the thread

needs to be made into a proper loop as Trumpeter would have you tie it into a nice knot around the hook, something you cannot quite do with steel cable! The end plate with the tow hook (Part A25) needs some detailing plus a hole drilling for the cable so that it can pass through the guide rollers. By the way, I thought these rollers were a bit weedy so I replaced them with bigger ones made from spruce.

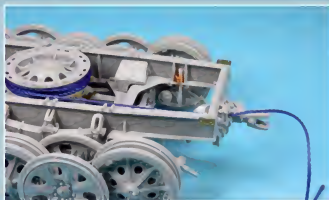
The suspension arms are next and gave no real problems apart from a mix up in part numbers

for the rearmost ones, Parts A17 and A18. These are transposed in the drawing - something I didn't figure out until I had fixed them in place and tried dry fitting the rear wheels... oops!

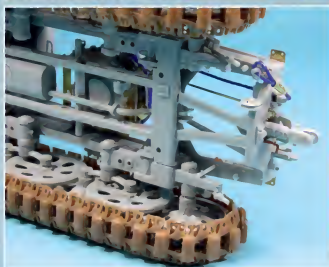
The steering wheel is fitted for some strange reason at Step 9 but if you do that you won't be able to fit the drivers compartment so a little trick here is to cut the steering column off near the base, drill a hole into the base and fix it to the chassis then replace the column with brass rod. This way ▶



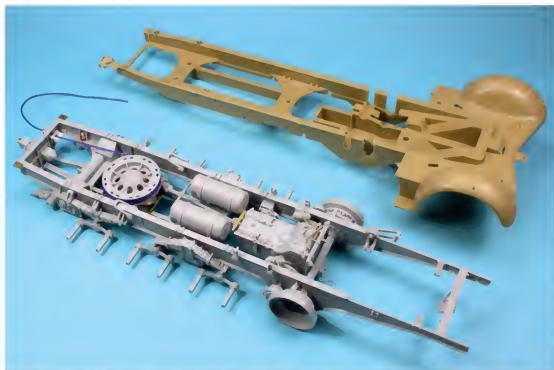
Here is the transmission. This may be left off until the chassis is completed.



Trumpeter's string was replaced with nylon thread.



The collar on the cable end was made from brass tube. It looks better than the knot Trumpeter would have you tie in the instructions!



A comparison between the old Tamiya chassis (top) and Trumpeter's much more detailed offering (below).

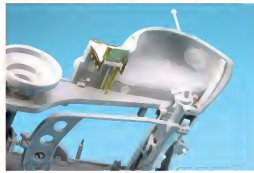


The kit's cabin sides are too thick. To improve them slightly they were given a rub down with wet and dry. The top and bottom parts represent before and after the treatment.

The pin marks underneath the fenders and rear body need filling and sanding as these can be seen on the completed model.



On my example the lip around the edge of the mudguard was missing and had to be remade from stretched sprue.



Missing on both Trumpeter and Dragon kits of the 7 is the fender bracket and it is quite noticeable, so these were made from plastic strip.

you can fit the steering column later on.

The road wheels are nicely done but some flash was present in the lightening holes and needed to be removed with a sharp scalpel. I also felt that the diameter of the wheels was a bit on the large side (21mm) and would have looked better with Modelkasten ones (19.5mm), however these were designed to replace the wheels in the old Tamiya kit and the holes for the axles were much bigger than the Trumpeter ones so I left them as they were.

The drive sprockets need some attention as the small rollers need to be offset to help the track fit

properly. Following Terry Ashley's useful step-by-step guide on his Perth Military Modelling website I altered the sprockets per his instructions. The best way to describe this offset is by looking at the drive sprocket side on. The rollers in the kit when fitted are central to the flat surfaces but should be off to one side (right on the right sprocket and left on the left sprocket). The mod simply involves cutting off the inner tabs on Part B15, then glue them to Part B16. The removed tabs are then glued into place on Part B21. When you assemble B21 and B1 you can revolve the small rollers around until you get the offset. Remember,

though, that the sprockets are now handed and need to be marked as such. Another point is the engraved lines on the sprockets need filling as they are not present on the actual vehicle.

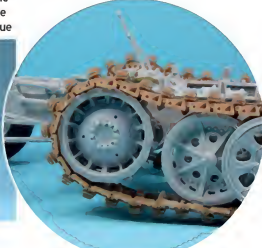
I dry fitted the wheels to the axles and sprockets to the chassis and began fitting the track, although the fit of the rear most wheels is poor and needs to be beefed up with brass rod. Oddly, the instructions state you need 108 links each side, which is great if you want the mother of all track-sag. It is really more like 54 links. The plastic used is quite brittle and it's very easy to break the links when cutting off the sprue

so be warned. I managed to break at least six! The tracks were glued to the wheels and left to dry thoroughly before removing them as this eases painting later on. The front tyres were replaced with resin items from Signifier due to the incorrect tread pattern on the kit supplied items. I am not a big fan of vinyl tyres anyway.

One thing I did notice during photography is that, with the running gear fitted, the chassis has a bit of an upward tilt at the front. This was due to the front leaf spring I had replaced however



Testing the sit of the chassis on a section of track. The chassis has a bit of a nose-up sit when you put the wheels and tracks on. The front leaf spring height needs to be altered to get around it.



Contrary to the advise in the kit instructions, 54 track links are required for each side.



The steering column has been replaced with brass rod.



The various sub-assemblies prior to painting.



The front grille is very poorly represented in the kit.



The three front sections were removed and cleaned up.



These were replaced with strips of plastic to restore an authentic "see through" look to the grille.



The upper bodywork with various bits of Eduard brass attached.



The fit of the body to the chassis is tricky, but it can be done.

with a bit of work I had a horizontal chassis again, but it's definitely worth watching out for with the kit item if fitted.

The upper bodywork is next. The pin marks underneath the fenders need filling as they are quite visible on the model. The same goes for part F2. After chatting to a modelling pal of mine who was building the Trumpeter 7/1 at the time, it was his suggestion that it was best to fit the front fenders to the chassis rather than to the one-piece moulding of the upper hull. After sanding back the rivet detail on these fenders it was fixed to the chassis. The rest of the bodywork went together quite well and I was

real vehicle they are quite thin. I sanded these down and it improved the look somewhat but other than replacing them with sheet brass there's not much more you can do. All the interior brass was from the Eduard set also the seat covers were left off to make painting easier. The only really bad gap occurred when fitting part C26 to the hull sides so it might be better to fit the drivers firewall at this stage, rather than earlier on.

The rear fenders need the holes filled, as the clear parts (P4) are reflectors that were not fitted to wartime vehicles.

The front grilles are awful so these were carefully cut out and

replaced with thin plastic strip, fine mesh being used to represent a radiator behind them. When dry fitting the bonnet (or hood) assembly to the main body the gap is quite big, however on the real vehicle this is covered by a leather strip so it is not difficult to do with tissue soaked in a PVA glue/water mix.

After the other details such as the width indicator rods, headlights, Notek lamp etc., were fitted the model was given a wash in warm soapy water and prepared for painting.

PAINTING

With the model in sub-assemblies, it was primed with Games Workshop Chaos Black then, for a change to my normal routine, I used Humbrol Matt 94 as the base coat. This was misted on to keep a pre-shaded look to it, then it was progressively lightened with Matt 34 White to fade it a bit in

the centre of panels and on upper surfaces.

I followed Trumpeter's coloured instruction sheet for the camouflage scheme using Humbrol Matt 186 Field Drab and a mix of Humbrol Matt 78 Grey/Green and White Ensign ARG 06 Olive Grn.

Back to acrylics now, and the whole model was given a couple of coats of Tamiya X-22 Clear varnish to prepare for the decals. These were applied with the help of Johnsons Kleer then given a final coat of X-22 to seal them in.

WEATHERING

With the model still shiny, it was now time to apply a couple of thin washes of oil paint. I used a mix of Raw and Burnt Umber oil paint to tone down the paintwork then a heavier pin wash was applied to bring out all the various details such as bolt head, rivets etc.

You may wonder at this point, why a shiny finish as opposed ▶

Basic construction is now complete.





Painting begins! In a change from my normal routine, the model received an overall coat of Humbrol Matt 94.



The camouflage is loosely based on pattern in the kit's painting guide.

to a matt finish? The reason is that you can control the washes better on a shiny surface and can clean up more easily if you make a mistake. A matt finish tends to absorb the wash and you end up with what I can only describe as damp patches here and there that are difficult to remove.

When the washes were dry, I applied a coat of matt or semi-matt varnish according to your taste. Various oil colours were dabbed onto the model then worked in with a chisel edged paint brush moistened with white spirit. This offers the basic paintwork a bit of tonal variation and breaks up an otherwise uniform colour. Paint chipping is done when the oil paint has dried using various shades of

Vallejo paint to add a bit of variety. A very thin mix of Humbrol Matt 29 Dark Earth/ Matt 33 Black was then sprayed around the lower chassis and running gear to start building up that grimy look. This was followed by a thin coat of Tamiya X-55 Deck Tan more or less in the same area but drifting more onto the upper surfaces for a dustier look. The trusty Mig Pigments European Earth was applied, followed by black pastel chalk worked into all the dark corners and recesses.

Final details such as tools and weapons were painted and attached to the model, after which the sub-assemblies are finally put together and job done.

CONCLUSION

Trumpeter can be a funny bunch. I must admit I was a little apprehensive about them tackling this subject as some of their kits can be a bit hit and miss. However I am pleased to say that this particular model is a hit (with me anyway) and the detail, especially in the chassis, is excellent. It is just a shame that most of it is hidden.

Altogether, this is a lovely model and one I enjoyed building. I feel Trumpeter have done the '7' justice and look forward to the other versions following shortly. ■

Acknowledgements

Thanks to the Editor for supplying the Eduard photo-etched parts.

Many thanks to Darren and Dave at Halifax Modellers World who made me an offer I couldn't refuse on this kit. Ta!



Trumpeter's 1:35 scale Sd.Kfz. 7 is well detailed. This was an enjoyable build, with extra detail and a few corrections.



The leather strip at the rear of the bonnet was formed from tissue soaked in a PVA glue/water mix.



The Eduard photo-etched set adds plenty of fine detail to the Trumpeter kit.

“I am pleased to say that this particular kit is a hit (with me anyway) and the detail, especially in the chassis, is excellent.”



...and here is something I prepared earlier! The new half-track is towing Dragon's sFH 18 Howitzer (featured in MMI issue 39).

Modelspec

Trumpeter 1/35 Sd.Kfz. 7.

Kit No: 01514

Materials

Injection moulded grey coloured styrene. Clear styrene. Vinyl styrene. Etch metal sheet. String. Waterslide decals.

Paints used

Games Workshop Chaos Black; Tamiya X-22 Clear; Vallejo 819 Iraqi Sand; 822 German Camo Black Brown; Humbrol Matt 29 Dark Earth; Matt 33 Black; Matt 70 Cockpit grey/green; Matt 106 Field Drab; Matt 94 Desert Yellow; White Ensign A86 06 Olive Drab; Raw Umber and Burnt Umber oil paint.

Accessories used

Eduard Etch Set 36862, Signifier resin front wheels.

References

AFV Super Detail Photo Book Vol.9 Halbketten Zugkraftwagen 8t SdKfz. 7 ASDP-009
Allied-Axis Photo Journal of WWII Issue 21, Amersand Publishing,
<http://www.pertmilitarymodelling.com/reviews/vehicles/trumpeter/r01523404.htm>

- ✓ First new kit of the subject in 30 years. Some excellent detailing. Fairly good fit of parts.
- ✗ Some mould ejector pin marks in awkward places. Front tyres have the wrong tread pattern. Some confusion in the instructions.

Available from

All good model shops. Distributed in the UK by Pocketbond.
Distributed in Australia by JB Wholesalers
www.jbwholesalers.com.au

Rating ●●●●●●●●

I thought the rear deck needed something so I thought a Zeltbahn draped over the area would look good. This was made from Milliput and shaped to fit.

The zeltbahn was painted with Vallejo Panzer Aces acrylics; 345 Splinter came base, 346 Splinter Blotches and 347 Splinter blotches 2.

The uniform tunic on the other side adds interest too.



Chris Wauchop built Tamiya's 1/35 scale Tiger I Early Version, finished as S33 of 2nd SS Panzer Division "Das Reich" at Kursk in 1943.



This is an adapted serialisation of the Osprey Masterclass book, "Airbrushing and Finishing Scale Models" by Brett Green, ISBN 978 1 84603 199 1. This hard-cover, ring-bound book is available online from Osprey Publishing at www.ospreypublishing.com

FINISHING SCHOOL

PART SEVEN – PAINTING MULTI-COLOUR CAMOUFLAGE FINISHES

This installment offers some suggestions on how to apply multi-colour camouflage finishes using a variety of techniques.

TIGER I

Chris Wauchop built Tamiya's 1/35 scale Tiger I early version, kit number 35216.

The model has been finished with the assistance the following accessories:

- Royal Model No. 158 "Fruhe Production" photo-etched set
- Model Point set 3551-1 - Smoke grenade launchers
- Elefant Model Accessories no. 35-393 - 88mm turned aluminium barrel & cast muzzle brake.
- Modelkasten SK-2 - Early Tiger I tracks.

In addition to these commercial accessories, Chris also made the following additions:

- All hatch handles replaced with copper wire
- Wiring for smoke launchers and

A two-colour camouflage scheme presents different challenges to a single colour finish. In this case, the base colour is a 50/50 mix of Tamiya acrylic Dark Yellow and Desert Yellow, lightened slightly with Flat White.





▲ The disruptive Dark Green has been applied freehand with the Testor Aztek A470 airbrush. The green paint was thinned with up to 70% isopropylene alcohol. This thin mix helps minimize spatter and overspray at the boundary between the camouflage colours.



▲ The basic camouflage colours have been blended and weathered with an oil wash. When dry, edges and large areas were "chipped" with the tip of a 2B pencil.

lights added using fine wire and fine solder

- Thinned, separated and buckled plastic kit side skirts
- Radio antenna added using tapered brass wire
- Jack block from balsa wood
- Lots of chipping and painting on the gun breech which is now impossible to see!
- Gun cleaning rods hollowed out at one end and pin inserted.

This was not easy as the rods are moulded to the plastic tow cables.

The model was painted using the Testor Aztek A470 airbrush. Kit markings were used to depict Tiger I "S33" of 2nd SS Panzer Division "Das Reich" at Kursk in 1943.

The marking on the hull sides and front is a Chinese symbol of luck, applied upside down!

PANTHER 6

This is Tamiya's 1/35 scale Panther Ausf. G kit finished as a machine from either the 2nd (according to Concord) or 9th (according to the kit instructions) Panzer Division.

Chris Wauchop added a number of after-market accessories to this model. All camouflage colours were applied with the Testor Aztek A470 airbrush.

Tamiya paints were used:

- XF-64 Red Brown
- XF-59 Desert Yellow mixed with XF-60 Dark Yellow mixed 50:50
- XF-61 Dark Green plus 30% XF-65 Field Grey

The wooden handles of the tools were painted XF-59 Desert Yellow.

Mud was added using Faber-Castell Pastel Chalk (9286-179), powdered and mixed with Mineral Turpentine and painted onto the tracks and the wheels. ▶

The tracks were sprayed with a mix of Tamaya acrylic XF-64 Red Brown and XF-1 Flat Black. This dirty base coat was supplemented with the 2B pencil run over the top of the track pads, representing wear and tear from hard road surfaces.

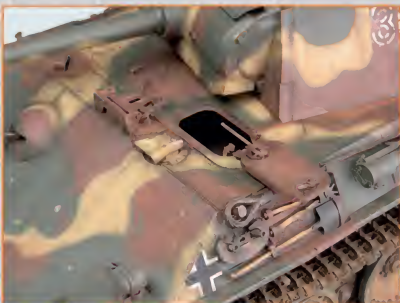




Tech Guide - Airbrushing and Finishing Scale Models



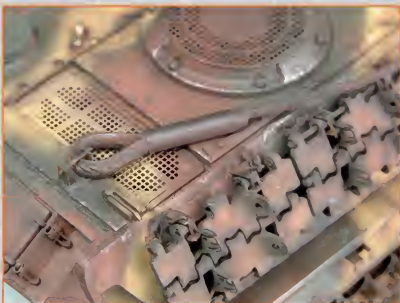
▲ The techniques available to an armour modeller for complex three colour camouflage are essentially the same as aircraft methods. For a late-war German "ambush" scheme, the modeller may choose to mask the demarcation between the colours, or carefully spray a tight freehand finish.



▲ In addition to the large areas of German Dark Yellow, Dark Green and Red Brown, the "ambush" scheme also featured small spots in contrasting colours.



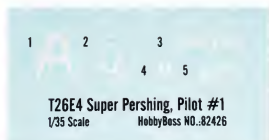
▲ Chris Wauchop chose to paint Tamiya's 1/25 scale late-version Panther freehand. This can be a challenging choice due to the hard-edged demarcation between the three colours. The Testor Aztek airbrush offers a number of different tips for specific painting tasks. The tan-coloured tip was used here, which offers the finest line – less than 1mm in skilled hands.



▲ Detail parts such as two cables, track links and the heads of tools were sprayed with a 50/50 mix of Tamiya XF-64 Red Brown and XF-1 Flat Black. These parts were selectively buffed with a fingertip. Other areas were "rustied" with a combination of pastel chalks and painting effects.



▲ The rubber rims of the road wheels were painted with the same Red Brown / Black mix, applied with a fine paint brush. The wheels and tracks were also weathered with pastel chalks and paints.



The decal sheet provides post-war markings.

BLACK JACK – BIGGER AND BETTER

Al Bowie is pretty impressed by the new Hobby Boss 1:35 scale Super Pershing, the ultimate Kitty Tamer!

The M26 Pershing was the pinnacle of US tank production in WWII. It was well received by long suffering US tankers when supplied in small quantities during Operation Zebra late in the war. The appearance of the German King Tiger with its KwK 43 88mm gun and superb armour proved a tough adversary for the standard M3 90mm gun that had been fitted in the earlier M36 Tank Destroyer. This led to development of the T15 variants of the 90mm gun.

The new gun had a much longer tube of 73 calibres that, when used with the new T30E16 APCR round, could attain a muzzle performance of 3750 ft/sec and penetrate a Panther at 2600 yards. This weapon, firing fixed ammunition, was fitted to the T26E1 – number 1 prototype

but problems were found in the handling of the large (50") case and a version of the gun with the two part ammunition was developed as the T15E2. The new tank was standardised as the T26E4 and a limited procurement of 1000 was ordered. The first prototype with the T15E1 gun was shipped to Europe for trials and evaluation. On arrival, it was decided up-armour the vehicle as a result of previous combat experience with the T26 E3. 80mm plate cut from a Panther was welded onto the bow as appliqué in a double layer. 40 mm boilerplate was also added to the mantlet sides as a counterweight for the gun's long tube.

There is some debate as to whether the "Super Pershing" as it has become known ever saw combat. A late edition of the book "Another River, Another Town" by John Irwin discusses the upgraded T26E4. The editors may have assumed that Irwin's description of his Pershing (he mentions the long gun which a standard M3 gun would be after a Sherman) was the Super Pershing but this is open to conjecture. If it was correct, then the Super Pershing dispatched three Panthers (undetermined type) and captured another prior to the war's end.

HobbyBoss has followed the path of the real vehicle and modified their excellent M26 Pershing to offer the first plastic kit of the imposing T26E4. The HobbyBoss 1:35 scale T26E4 comprises 469 plastic plus 9 photo-etched parts including 168 individual track links, and two vinyl track runs.

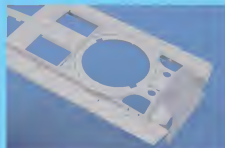
The kit has a correct T26E1 turret with the cupola type loaders hatch and the additional parts that make up the gun's equilibrators and the counterweights fitted to the turret rear and the mantlet armour. The hull armour is well done and looks the part with the correct two layers being depicted. Like

the M26 kit before it, this one has a full engine and compartment and rubber band tracks. Superbly moulded individual links with no visible knockout marks are also provided.

HobbyBoss has done their homework with the unique parts included but the instructions being based on the earlier M26 kit would have you add post-war parts to the kit. The tank telephone part B25 can be left off. The "Bat Wing" mantlet extensions (H12 G13) are hollow backed and this needs to be remedied along with removing the final drive reinforcing strips from part B18. The kit part makes a good template however they are easily corrected with scrap plastic and putty. All the unique parts like the storage racks in photo-etch and extended light fittings are included. Markings are provided for the actual vehicle as she was photographed post-war in a vehicle dump in Germany in June 1945. This causes a problem as the large A and 2 shown are post war markings. Additionally, the vehicle is depicted in Olive Drab although wartime pictures indicate a Black disruptive pattern. No National Insignia (white stars) are included.

In summary, this an excellent kit of a unique but important vehicle but it still needs a little work in places. It has some annoying little traits like moulded on latches, no periscopes for the hatches, post war features etc. Most of the mouldings are first class and a great Super Pershing can be made from this kit with the use of good reference such as Hunnicutt's Pershing. This is an excellent buy for the money and a really good start point for a show stopping Super Pershing or Panzer '46 type Pershing and as such I highly recommend it. ■

Thanks to Creative Models Limited for the sample
www.creativemodels.co.uk



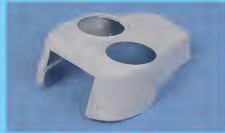
The upper hull features separate hatches for the crew and engine compartments.



The lower hull with mounting points for the running gear.



Like the M26 kit before it, this kit has a full engine and compartment.



This kit correctly features the T26E1 turret.



Additional parts include the equilibrators and counterweights.



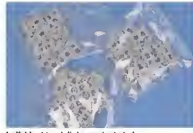
The new gun barrel is long!



Extra armour is supplied for this unique vehicle.



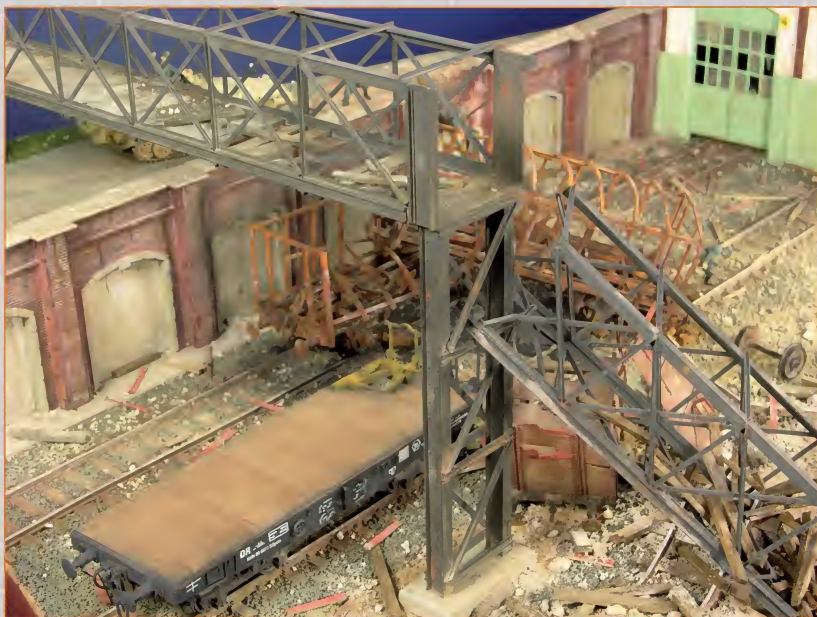
A small photo-etched fret is included.



Individual track links are included.



The modeller is offered the option of full-length flexible vinyl tracks.



CHERBOURG 1944

PART TWO

Justo Mira continues his step-by-step illustrated guide to building a 1/72 scale diorama of the French port of Cherbourg. In this instalment, Justo focuses on building the wagons, the vehicles and the figures.

The wagons were first scratch built using Evergreen plastic sheet and strip. I made copies in resin. It will be easier these days if you want to build as a commercial offering by MiG Productions.

I bought the Ironside G-10 in 1:35. The parts were all measured and reduced to 1:72 scale.

The wrecked wagons are also made from plastic card, but in this case the interiors are detailed too.

The SSYMS Flatcar is a 1:72 scale resin kit by Planet Models.

All the elements were glued to the base using super glue. I did not fix the roof of the building and the metallic bridge until painting was complete.

FIGURES

The figures are all by the German manufacturer Preiser. Various heads were exchanged, except for the figure wearing the coat. He is from Pegasus.

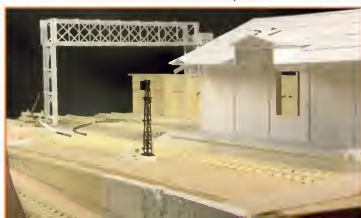
SD.Kfz. 251

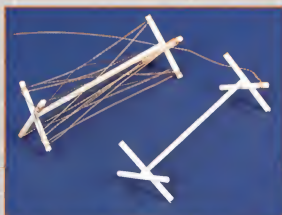
I barely have the words to describe Dragon's 1:72 scale Sd.Kfz. 251 half track. I believe that it is the best 1:72 scale model that I have seen, and certainly the best small-scale kit that I have built. Detail is magnificent, everything fits to the perfection and the full-length flexible track can be posed as if it is hard plastic.

SOMUA

The 1:72 scale Somua is a resin kit from Alby. This nice little model was built almost straight from the box. I have only replaced the cupola for the turret in the closed position, since the kit provides a Commander figure in the turret with the cupola moulded under his arms in one piece. ■

The building and basic structure for the diorama await the addition of details to tell the story.





▲ Barricades were made up from plastic rod and copper wire.



▲ The mines are simply coloured balls detailed with disks of punched plastic and a bent copper hook. This is the Historex miniature punch and die.



▲ Copper wire was used once again for the loco ladder.



▲ All the wagons were initially scratch built using Evergreen plastic sheet and strip.



▲ The wrecked wagons are also made from plastic card, but in this case the interiors are detailed as well.



▲ The burnt out wagons are mainly made up from Evergreen plastic strip.



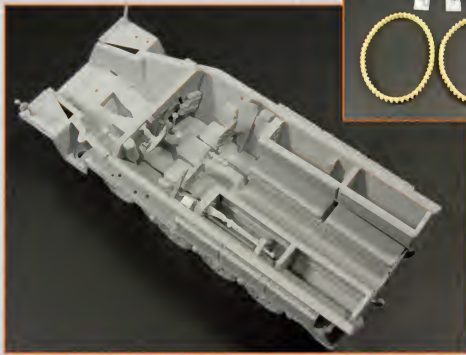
▲ The SSYMS Flatcar is a 1:72 scale resin kit by Planet Models.



▲ This is one of the resin copies of the original scratch built wagons.



Tech Guide - SMALL SCALE DIORAMA



▲ Dragon's 1:72 scale Sd.Kfz. 251 Ausf. C is a beautifully detailed kit. The interior is remarkable for this small scale.



▲ The flexible tracks work very well indeed. The rear doors may be posed open.



▲ Fit of Dragon's little Hanomag is close to perfect.



▲ The French Somua tank is a 1:72 scale resin kit from Alby with a replacement turret cupola.



▲ The figures are from Preisser. Some of the heads have been swapped around.



▲ The soldier jumping from the wall is mounted via his entrenching tool...



▲ ...but from the front he looks as if he is frozen mid-fall.



The base now awaits rubble and ground-work before painting and final assembly.

Next time, Justo will describe the painting and final assembly of all the components.



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WHEELING OUT THE BIG GUNS

In recent times Trumpeter has released quite a decent number of heavy artillery subjects. The German 17cm Kanone 18 is the latest to join this impressive range.

The 17cm Kanone 18 was developed and manufactured by German steel giant Krupp. The weapon served from 1941 to 1945. It was intended to be employed at Corps level to provide long range counter battery support, and with a range of 29,600 meters could do so very efficiently.

The 17cm Kanone 18 filled the same role as the 21cm Morser 18 up to 1942, and then took over entirely.

Technically the gun was an excellent weapon, but it was

expensive to produce and maintain, and was quite difficult to manoeuvre and slow to set up due to its tremendous size and weight. Many of these guns were lost due to crews abandoning them, attempting to avoid capture by advancing Allied forces.

So what has Trumpeter delivered in their stout box? A lot! There are more than 400 plastic parts on 14 sprues, four vinyl tyres, two brass tubes and two metal springs. Also inside is an A4-sized coloured profile drawing and an instruction booklet describing construction over 25 stages on 24 pages.

The plastic parts are very crisply detailed and flash free. Note that there are some small

delicate looking parts that will require care when removing from the sprues.

The pressed steel wheels are well done. The raised bolt heads and wavy pressed metal effect is quite convincing. The wheels are finished with solid vinyl tyres. Although many modellers do not like vinyl parts, this will certainly make painting easier.

The chunky trailer also features appropriately raised rivet detail plus perforated walkways for the gun crew. Just add figures and this model will almost be a diorama in its own right.

Andrew Judson examines the latest in a line of large artillery pieces from Trumpeter, their 1:35 scale German 17cm Kanone 18.

The big gun barrel is a multi-part plastic assembly, so care will be required when aligning and gluing the seam lines.

A modest-sized photo-etched fret provides some of the smaller detail parts. The other major multi-media element, the brass tubes, represent the pneumatic equilibrators on each side of the gun.

Studying the instructions and following each stage should be done before starting this kit, as it is detailed and close attention will need to be taken to ensure that all parts are correctly placed and aligned. This is especially the case when you construct the main gun carriage, otherwise you may encounter problems further into the build.

I would recommend building this kit in sub assemblies as well for ease of painting and weathering as there looks to be many nooks and crannies that will be difficult to adequately paint otherwise.

Once built, this is going to be an impressive kit at 423.8mm in length, 82.1mm wide and 93.2mm in height. The model may be built in either fighting or transport mode. Whichever you choose it is going to look great.

In summary, I think that this is a fantastic looking model and recommend it to all modellers with a moderate level of experience. My only personal disappointment is the single colour choice given, overall Panzer Grey. Even so, I am sure with some research other, more interesting schemes could be found. Grab this one, it is worth it!

Thanks to JB Wholesalers for the sample
www.jbwholesalers.com.au



Detail of all the parts is crisp. The pressed steel wheels are very well done.



The big gun barrel is a multi-part plastic assembly, so care will be required when aligning and gluing the seam lines.



The chunky trailer features appropriately raised rivet detail.



Perforated walkways for the sides of the gun trailer are nicely done.



The breech block is well detailed.



A modest-sized photo-etched fret provides some of the smaller detail parts.



Trumpeter lets you paint the gun any colour you want as long as it is Panzer Grey!



Four vinyl parts are supplied, which represent the solid rubber tyres.



The brass tubes represent the pneumatic equilibrators on each side of the gun.



Tamiya's 1:32 Spitfire MkIXc

by Brett Green

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April 10

SWORD AND LANCE
 Saturday 10th April: Sword & Lance 2010 presented by Darlington Military Modelling Society at the Arts Centre, Vane Terrace, Darlington DL3 7AX. Doors open 10 am to 4.30 pm. Model and Militaria displays, Demonstrations, Trade stands and Open Model Competition with sections for:- Military Figure, Aircraft and Vehicle painters, Military Modelling (scratchbuilt/ conversion, vignettes and dioramas), Miscellaneous and Juniors. Licensed bar plus hot and cold refreshments also available Admission £2.00 Adults, £1.00 Senior Citizens & Children. For further details, contact: Colin Holmes, 127 Dinsdale Crescent, Darlington, Co., Durham, DL1 1EZ. Tel. 01325 489801 or e-mail on colin.holmes@whsmithnet.co.uk

April 11

BUFFCON 2010
 IPMS Niagara Frontier is happy to host it's 27th annual BuffCon scale modelling convention on April 11, 2010 in Cheektowaga NY, USA. As usual, our contest will consist of over 60 categories including juniors, bantams and many out-of-box awards. Our vending room will have dozens of tables and for the first time in recent years, we will be hosting demonstrations. All in all, it is a very packed event, and a great time will be had by all attending.

April 16 - 18

The IPMS/USA Region 11, Regional Contest and Modelfest, will be hosted by IPMS Space Coast, at the Holiday Inn, Oceanfront Resort, Cocoa Beach, FL. For details contact Mark Warthing at (321) 508-3743, before 9:00 pm, or e-mail mwarthing@cfl.rr.com Visit the web site at www.ipmsspacecoast.com

April 17 - 18

SWMEE 2010-02-01
 The South West Model Engineering, Model Making and Hobbies Exhibition 2010 takes place Saturday 17th April 10am - 5pm, and Sunday 18th April 10am - 4.30pm. Parking is free for all visitors. For more information visit www.swmee.co.uk

April 17 - 18

South West Model Engineering, Model Making and Hobbies Exhibition takes place at The Royal Bath & West Show Ground in Shepton Mallet. The event has been gaining momentum in since the first show in 2008. Armortek is a supporter of the event, which features a range of demonstrations including radio controlled tank displays on both days. Wargames enthusiasts will find a lot to keep them occupied, including competitions organised by South Somerset Wargames Club. These competitions include:
 • Field of Glory Ancients & Medieval 15mm
 • Field of Glory Ancients & Medieval 25mm
 • Flames of War World War 2 Late War 15mm
 • Flames of War World War 2 Mid War 15mm
 For more information see www.swmee.co.uk

April 25

EAST MIDLANDS MODEL SHOW 2010
 The East Midlands model club will be holding its annual show in Hinckley. This year it will be held on the 25 April 2010 at the usual location at the Leisure Centre Hinckley from 10:00 to 16:30. Admission is Adults £3.50, Children / Concessions £1.50 and Family ticket is £8.00. There will be a competition with multiple classes at an entrance fee of £1.00 for adults and free for children.

April 25

21ST GATWICK INTERNATIONAL AIRCRAFT ENTHUSIASTS FAIR
 Come and buy anything connected with airline / aircraft hobbies at LGW2010 - Europe's BIGGEST aircraft enthusiasts event. Email: LGW2010@gatwickaviationsociety.org.uk www.gatwickaviationsociety.org.uk

May 2

MOVELEO'S MODELFORCE '10
 Moveleo Leopoldsburg will be presenting Model Force '10 on Sunday 2 May 2010 at the "Technisch Instituut Don Bosco" school complex, Don Boscostraat 6, in the centre of Helchteren, Belgium. The show will be open from 10.00 till 17:00 and will feature club displays, traders, kids' corner, an open modeling contest and food and

refreshments. Entry to the show is free. More information can be found at modelforce.moveleo.be or email modelforce@moveleo.be

May 9

7th Modellbaufreunde Siegen Model Show.
 Held on 9 May, 2010, at Festival Hall in Wilsdorf, Germany. For more information email info@modellbaufreunde-siegen.de or visit www.modellbaufreunde-siegen.de

May 16

On Sunday 16th May 2010 Birchwood Model Club will be hosting our seventh model show. Once again all proceeds from the show will be donated to our designated charity The British Heart Foundation. The show takes place on Sunday 16th May 2010 at Croft Village Hall, Mustard Lane, Croft, Warrington, Cheshire, WA3 7BG Admission :- Adults £2, Seniors £1.50, Children £1. Doors open to the public 10AM-4PM. There will be a giant tombola, raffles, trade stall, ample free parking, refreshments and also the hall is fully geared up for the disabled. There will be exhibits of kits, ships, railway, war games, meccano, sci-fi, scratch built, dioramas, toy soldiers and die cast to name but a few. For further details if readers could contact Paul Gemmell 01925 824182 or gemmell.paul@yahoo.co.uk or Neil Morrison 0151 423 5496.

May 22 - 23

Scale ACT '10
 The Harmonie German Club, 49 Jerrabomberra Avenue, Narrabundah, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory (ACT), AUSTRALIA This two day modelling event features: scale model displays, competitions, local and interstate traders, a swap 'n sell, and a dinner on the Saturday evening. For more detailed information go to: www.actms.asn.au

May 22

South Devon Model Extravaganza 2010.
 This is the first of what we hope will become a regular event in the heart of beautiful South Devon. The show will be held at

the Newton Abbot Race Course. Larger attractions, these will include plastic modelling, live steam, railways, slot cars radio controlled vehicles and aircraft (in action), war gaming, fantasy and more. A competition will be open to any modellers who want to enter the multiple classes on offer with no need to belong to any club. The venue is easy to find (TQ12 3AF) with ample of safe off road free parking. Request for clubs or traders should be addressed to Paul Thompson 21 Graham Road, Paignton Devon TQ3 1BB Tel - 01803 558 520 Email - info@just-bases.co.uk Alternatively contact John Wilkes at john@skywriters.net

May 23

HENDON MODEL SHOW
 The Hendon Model Show 2010 will be held at the Royal Air Force Museum at Hendon on 23 May, 2010, from 10am to 6pm. Check the website for more www.rafmuseum.org/whatson

June 26th

AMC BELGIUM 18TH ANNUAL MODELLING DAY
 Amay Modèles Club will be hosting its 18th Modelling Day (competition, exhibition and swap) at the IPES Huy, 6 Avenue Delchambre, B-4500 Huy (Belgium). Contact: Michel Calluy, 13 Thier du Moulin, B-4530 Villers-le-Bouillet (B) Tel; 00 32 85 231086 michel.calluy@skynet.be Also available on the AMC Web site www.amaymodelclub.org

October 30

Gravesham Military Modelling Society will be holding their annual Open Day and competition on Sunday October 30th at Chalk Parish Hall, Lower Higham Road, Chalk, Gravesend, Kent. The show has a great friendly atmosphere supported by local traders and model clubs, as in previous years the competition classes are open to all with a maximum of three entries per person in any one class. Doors open at 10.00 closing at 16.00. For further details and bookings please contact Jean Bickerstaff on 01474 327003 G.M.M.S. web site may be found at www.gmms.org.uk Sat Nav post code DA12 2NB

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The books have been helping modellers to add essential details, find markings and apply paint schemes to aircraft, armour and ship models for many years, and the great news is that Squadron Signal books now are easier to find than ever before, because ADH Publishing, the company that brings you Model Military International each month, is importing them from the USA.

You can find Squadron Signal at good model and book shops, and you can also check www.adhbooks.com to see what we have on offer!

Please call us now for full details of prices, availability and range; UK (+44) 01525 222573

SS5716 - M88 ARV Walk Around



The M88 Armored Recovery Vehicle was designed and developed in the late 1950s to handle recovery of the heavier and more massive tanks that were appearing at the time. Armored like a tank and incorporating the suspension and drive train of the M48/M60 tanks, the M88 ARV is equipped with a massive winch and a hydraulically raised A-frame boom with 400 feet of 5/8" wire rope. The M88's original gasoline motor served the vehicle well during its years of duty in Vietnam. In the 1970s, though, a new diesel power plant was installed in the M88, which was then reclassified as an M88A1. Production for domestic use ended in 1989, but the vehicles continued to be manufactured for export. Meanwhile, a new recovery vehicle became necessary with the introduction of the massive M1 Abrams tank. The M88 had been so successful that it was taken as the basis for the new upgraded recovery vehicle, which is still in use today - the M88A2. Illustrated with 175 photographs, plus color profiles and detailed line drawings. 80 pages.

SS2044 - Truck-Mounted Artillery in Action



Italian military planners saw the need for highly mobile artillery early in the 20th Century. Accordingly, Italy began mounting anti-aircraft weapons on truck chassis prior to WWII, giving birth to the autocannone, a weapon concept which would soldier through both World Wars. A unique and lavishly-illustrated survey of the various weapon combinations devised by the Italian military from the inception of the autocannone until the end of WWII. Illustrated with over 200 photographs, plus color profiles and detailed line drawings. 52 pages.

SS6093 - The Aviation Art of Lou Drendel 'Special Collectors Edition'



Lou Drendel has been drawing and painting airplanes since he can remember. Inspired by the model aeroplanes his father built for him, he took pencil and paper and began drawing. He hasn't stopped yet, more than sixty years later. Lou's art has been featured in dozens of books published by Squadron/Signal. Now, they are gathered together in one volume. This book displays more than 200 of the extraordinary works of the famed aviation artist: sixty-four pages of colour.

SS7006 - Battle of Kursk 1943



The Greatest Tank Battle in History. After the German defeat at Stalingrad, the Axis forces were ready to fight and the decision was made to shorten their lines by eliminating the Soviet salient at Kursk. The resulting battle was a terrible defeat for the Axis, and their last major offensive was the Eastern Front. Features: The Rebirth of the Soviet Army; German forces at the Battle of Kursk - July, 1943; Soviet Defensive Zone Around the Kursk Salient; Air Operations during the Battle of Kursk; PzKpfw V Panther and PzKpfw VI Tiger at Kursk; Reasons the German lost the Battle of Kursk; Rare Photo's of Soviet equipment; The opposing commanders;

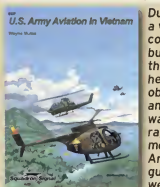
German and Soviet Order of Battle. Illustrated with 59 black & white and 18 color photos, and 43 color drawings; 136 pages.

SS7008 - D-Day 1944



The Allies launched their invasion of German-occupied Europe after 18 months of preparation - three and one half million troops, more than ten thousand warplanes and an armada of nearly five thousand sea-going vessels stormed 'Fortress Europe' and opened the long awaited second front against Hitler's Reich. Includes the Allied bid for air superiority, the landings, a photo file, opposing commanders and forces, portable weapons and many lesser known details of the making of the new Western Front. Ample illustrated with more than 60 b/w and 30 color photos, 6 maps, 21 equipment profiles, 13 uniform plates and additional specially commissioned art. 136 pages.

SS6127 - U.S. Army Aviation Vietnam



During Vietnam, the US Army employed a variety of aircraft to accomplish combat missions. Following turf and budget debates with the Air Force, the Army settled on the use of various helicopters and some fixed-wing observation planes. Using air mobility and air assault strategies, the Army was able to demonstrate the ability to rapidly move significant amounts of men and equipment on the battlefield. Army aircraft were further used as gunships, medevacs, air controllers as well as surveillance and transportation. This book takes a detailed look at the development and implementation of Army Aviation in Vietnam with nearly 200 photographs, color profiles and detailed line drawings. 80 pages.

Shown here is a selection of some of the most popular titles, many more available

Available from all good model and book shops

For more details visit www.adhbooks.com or call 01525 222573 • Trade enquiries welcome

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Small Scale A round-up of the latest news and releases in 1:72 and 1:76



DRAGON

1:72 PZ.KPFW.IV AUSF. G (EARLY PRODUCTION), KIT NO. 7278

This is Dragon's second Panzer IV kit in small scale, following on from the short-barrelled Ausf. F1. This kit is based on the same set of main sprues with a small number of different parts relevant to an early Ausf. G. There are also a few parts included that aren't relevant to this particular version and these are noted on the instructions.

The main parts are provided as cleanly moulded injection plastic parts with a small photo-etched brass fret providing a few additional items. The tracks are made of Dragon's customary DS100 flexible styrene. The details on these are actually very good and it's possible to glue them with both polystyrene glue and cyanoacrylate super glues. As with the earlier Ausf. F1 kit, the detail on the parts is simply outstanding. Slide moulding is clearly used in a number of areas including the gun barrel that is given as a single piece that even has the muzzle brake drilled out. The inner faces of the hatches are well-detailed which will prove useful for those wishing to leave them open for the addition of crew figures. Even the underside of the fenders and the turret storage bin lid have detail on them, although the benefits of this are probably minimal. Another very nice touch is the addition of subtle weld seams on both the hull and turret.

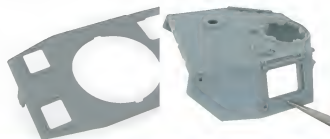
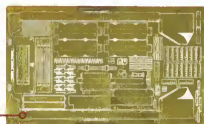
Markings are provided as in-register waterslide decals covering 5 vehicles. These include dark yellow, whitewash and all grey vehicles so there is plenty of choice in finish available.

As is now becoming customary, this is another outstanding small-scale model from Dragon with detail that rivals the larger scales.

Highly recommended.

Thanks to The Hobby Company for the sample

www.hobbyco.net
Darren Thompson



E.T. MODEL

1:72 T-34/76 MOD 1941

KIT NO E72-005

E.T. Model is a relatively new Chinese manufacturer with a small range of photo etched sets. This set is aimed at Dragon's T-34 kit and is composed of a brass fret that contains the majority of parts and a small steel fret containing the mesh for the engine compartment plate. Both frets are very thin, more so than many other etched sets I've seen and this will make cutting and bending much easier, although extra care will be needed to avoid damaging the parts. The detail is excellent and most of the parts do actually look useful which isn't always the case!

The instructions are well done, showing exactly where each part goes without any confusion.

Overall I am very impressed with this set. Highly recommended.

Darren Thompson



Figures - A round-up of the latest figure sets on release...



ZVEZDA

SOVIET TANK HUNTERS WITH DOGS WWII.

1:35 SCALE • ITEM NO. 3611

Zvezda has released some slightly off-beat subjects lately. Their newest figure set release, Soviet Tank Hunters with Dogs, certainly falls into this category. These are no sniffer dogs. During the Second World War, the Soviet Army trained dogs to look for food underneath tanks. These anti-tank dogs would be fitted with canvas bags filled with high explosive. Before a battle, the dogs would be starved so they would crawl underneath German tanks in search of food. Once in place underneath the enemy tank, the explosive would be remotely detonated with the obvious result to both the Panzer and the dog.

Zvezda's figure set provides three dogs and their handlers. The parts are well moulded in a variety of poses. One of the handlers is prone and firing his PPSh-

41 sub-machine gun, another is kneeling and holding his dog back, while the final figure is walking his canine charge (in every sense of the word). The dogs are moulded with their explosive packs, radio and back-mounted antenna in place.

This is a well-executed set of a little-known corner of anti-tank warfare. Recommended.

Thanks to JB Wholesalers for the sample www.jbwholesalers.com.au



TRUMPETER

PMC IN IRAQ 2005 - VIP SECURITY GUARDS

1:35 SCALE • ITEM NO. 00420

Private Military Contractors are a significant presence in Iraq today. Trumpeter has acknowledged their role with a set of three Private Military Contractor (PMC) Security Guards, plus a suitably nervous looking VIP.

The Contractors are wearing Kevlar vests, baseball caps and kneeguards, while the VIP has a briefcase to go along with his vest. The four figures are provided on a single grey sprue with packs and accessories on a separate tree of parts. The weapons are particularly well done, with M4 Assault Rifles, pistols and more offered on four small black sprues.

This is an interesting figure set that will lend itself well to an Iraq vignette or diorama.

Recommended.

Thanks to JB Wholesalers for the sample

www.jbwholesalers.com.au





Letters

WRITE TO: MMI Letters, ADH Publishing, Doolittle Mill, Doolittle Lane, Totterhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK
Tel: 01525 222573 Fax: 01525 222574 Email: editor@modelmilitary.com
The views expressed are not necessarily those of the editor or publisher.
Letters may be edited for publication.



MISSING ARTICLE

In your January issue of "Model Military International" you said on page 30 "NEXT TIME in the next instalment we will complete construction and detailing, and paint our Zvezda ISU-52". We have bought the February Issue 46, but cannot find the next instalment on this article. Could you let me know if I have missed it or not?

Many thanks
Mrs Lightfoot
UK

P.S My husband loves this magazine.

Ed Says: Hello Mrs Lightfoot, No, you have not missed the second instalment of the Zvezda ISU-152 piece. It has not been published yet. With only 68 pages to play with, the best laid plans of mice and Editors often go astray. We had a couple of short-notice arrivals for Issue 46 and 47, so the ISU-152 was squeezed out. The good news is that the second part of the Tamiya ISU-152 article was published in Issue 48, so I plan to have my Zvezda ISU, after a brief break from Soviet SPGs, in Issue 51. I do apologise for the delay, and I trust that you have enjoyed the articles in the last few Issues.

BAR ARMOUR FOR ASLAV

I have just read your article on the Trumpeters ASLAV-25, I was so impressed I have purchased the kit I now wish to add the bar armour etc. to the kit, but although your article tells the reader who supplied it, despite days of trying to locate it on the internet, I am unsuccessful. I can read about it on several web sites but cannot locate it on Mouse House Enterprises site nor can I find any details of cost. Please help.

Andy
Johnson

Ed Says: Hi Andy, Thanks for the note. Mouse House has now renamed their modern multimedia range of conversions and figures "Arms Corps Models". The ASLAV bar armour conversion / update is available from their website on this page www.mheast.com.au/MHE/Resin/MA/ASLAV25A.htm Hope this helps.



FFI DECAL ARTWORK

I checked your website and could not find the artwork for the FFI decals for the Citroen T1CV Traction Avant. If possible, I would like to have a copy of that artwork.

Thanks,
Mike Petty
AMPS
Chief Judge

Ed Says: Hi Mike, Sorry about that. I was a little late adding the artwork to the website. Nice to hear that somebody noticed! You may find the FFI decal artwork on Model Military International's website by following the link at the top of the page to "Decals". The artwork for the FFI decals and the Matilda are both there now.

PRICING IN REVIEWS

First can I say what a great magazine you have got running here. It is a great read in bed or in between stages of a model.

The main reason that I have sent this letter is me being only 12, I do not have a job so I don't have much money knocking about.

What I am trying to say is that it might be a good idea to put a rough idea of how much the retail price is of the model being reviewed.

Thanks for reading my letter and I hope you carry on making great magazines for us all to read.

Will Sandry, Age 12
Worcestershire, UK



P.S. I think that the Gallery on your website is a great idea and I will be putting some of my models on there very soon.

Ed Says: Hi Will. Great to hear from you. Thanks for the suggestion about including prices with reviews. I have given this a lot of thought in the past. The problem is that MMI is a truly international magazine, and pricing varies widely depending on where you are in the world. I think the best idea is to check local pricing on the Internet with the help of our good friend Mr Google. In the UK, you could also check online companies that have comprehensive online catalogues such as Creative Models www.creativemodels.co.uk or Hannants www.hannants.co.uk I will look forward to seeing some of your models in the future.

JO SONJA'S BRUSH SOAP AND CONDITIONER

I hope you don't mind me emailing but in Issue 47 of Model Military International, Luke Pitt has built Fine Molds' Type 97 Japanese Medium Tank he uses Jo Sonja's Brush Soap and Conditioner and I was wondering where he buys it from. As I live in the United Kingdom I wondered if there was anywhere over here where I can get it from. I would also like to say that MMI is a fantastic magazine. The articles are brilliant. Keep up the good work.

Many Thanks,
Gary Langston
UK

JUST MY LUCK

Just when you finish a diorama after months of hard work, just when you sit back and admire it and promise to yourself that you will never EVER build a diorama THAT big again (with 2 Hanomags, 1 T-34, 20 figures, a building and lots and lots of rubble). And above all, just when you think that you came up with an idea for a layout that nobody (as at least all of your internet searches showed) came up with before, you go and buy your favourite model magazine and PRESTO, there it is - a diorama of a ruined train station, with a layout similar to yours, previewed on the next issue. Just take a look at the photos that I have attached. I have to admit that the photo (.....and the diorama) quality is poor but you can see what I mean. Get ready for lawsuits! I am joking.

Thumbs up for your magazine. Keep up the good work.

Andreas Hadjigeorgiou (aka Blanka)
Nicosia - Cyprus

Ed Says: Hi Andreas, Ah, isn't that the way of the world? This is similar to the universal rule that also applies to scratch building. If you take the time and trouble to research and scratch build a subject, that same subject will soon be released as a commercially available kit or conversion!

At least your diorama is based on the Eastern Front and not Normandy 1944.



Ed says: Hi Gary, Luke purchased the brush soap from an art store near his home in Sydney. I have done a quick check online and it appears that the Jo Sonja Brush Soap and Conditioner is available at art and craft shops in the UK, and online as well. A few British sources are Pegasus Art www.pegasusart.co.uk and Chroma www.chromaonline.com Good luck with your search and thank you for the kind words about the magazine.



MODELLER'S BLOCK

Every so often I find myself in a situation when, for the life of me, I can't find my inspiration at all. I am currently in the middle of one of those periods. There are a number of factors that come into play here.

The first problem is that every project I am interested in seems to involve so much work! Years ago, when I first started modelling, I used to crank out kit after kit with little or no attention paid to either the accuracy or the model's presentation. The sole purpose was to enjoy the build and indeed the outcome of what the build produced. The key word here is enjoyment. As we mature, our building seems to become a more research-based activity. As many of us know, this can lead us to discover aspects of our previous builds that were (without us knowing any better) far from perfect. You can either beat yourself up over this or do as I do and just move on.

The second factor is what I would describe as information overload. When doing research for

a build I often find kits, and indeed conversions, sometimes lack a little in either detail or accuracy. In the majority of cases this will spur me on and make me want to produce something better, but there are times when all the perceived errors seem to be just too hard to fix.

What do I do when I come to these forks in the road? The simple solution is to build something different or build something straight out of the box. I have found these two solutions help me around these "builder's block" periods. The other solution is tidying up my work area. It may sound strange but you will often find a part or indeed a kit that may get you going again.

I often find when I attend modelling competitions and meet various modellers some are very passionate about research, while others are more interested in presentation and others still are just happy to attend and talk to other modellers. I find the latter group to be the most content of the lot. Why? Because they don't expect too much from

either themselves or indeed the hobby. They look upon modelling as a fun thing to do. I suppose it really depends upon your personality type. I find myself drawn to all camps and to be honest I can find the build process to be tedious at times. The painting and presentation process can on occasion be frustrating too. But both can be highly rewarding when everything goes according to plan. One of my real pleasures in life is to view a really well done model. I often admire other peoples' work and sometimes want to emulate it. I find this to be my biggest motivator. The key word here is fun. If the build or model is not fun and more and more like a job, then it might be best to take a break or try something else for a while. You will often find in time you will come back with greater energy and drive to complete your next project.

Until next time *Luke Pitt*

Model Military International 1:48 Scale Q & A - Stan Spooner

Stan Spooner is the Owner/Creative Director of a graphic design firm located in sunny Southern California. He has been building models since he was 6 years old but only tried his hand at 1:48 scale modelling in the last five years. Before that, his focus was on aircraft modelling as seen in TMMI and Osprey Modelling publications. Stan is married to Gerri and they have two daughters, Lauren 20 and Kylee 12.

THE INTERVIEW

Luke: Hi Stan good to have you with us, What would you consider to be your best 1:48 scale model and why?

Stan: Hi Luke Thanks for the invite to be here. My best? I think that my Kiwi Sherman would be the best kit I have finished but my Cargo Hummer I think will pass that one up when it is finished. It has allowed me to have so much fun while doing a bunch of simple upgrades and conversions on the kit.

Luke: What is the most 1:48 influential scale model you have seen in print and why?

Stan: There is no doubt that there are so many talented modellers that are doing wonderful work in this scale. Lars, Charlie, Antonio, Lu, Domingo and yourself Luke are truly inspiring. But if you are asking me for the true standouts, it would have to be Pat Johnson's Firefly Vc and its truly amazing paint job, Marcus Nicholls KV-1 again a stunning build, and most recently Mike Rinaldi's fantastic Pz.Kpfw.III Ausf.H These three models are truly wonderful modelling but more than that, they are masterful storytelling in plastic.

Luke: Yes, both Mike and Marcus do outstanding work, but Pat Johnson's stuff just blows me away. I hope to see more of these guys work in the future, but tell me if you had to pick one kit that should be made in 1:48 what would that be?

Stan: As much as I enjoy all of the esoteric WWII subjects, such as Italian, French and Japanese armour, I guess I would be most thrilled with a T55 and a M1A2 Abrams. Mr. Tamiya? Please!

Luke: Thanks for your time Stan, I am always inspired by your builds and know a lot of others are too I too wish Tamiya would do a T-55 or maybe even a Dragon Wagon!

Stan: Ha, a Dragon Wagon... I don't think you will see that anytime soon! Thanks Luke for trying to highlight this scale of armour modelling. I too look forward to the day when a 1/48 scale armor build takes Best of Show at Euro Militaire!





HAULER

1:48 SCALE

- HLX48276 OPEL BLITZ UPGRADE
- HLX48278 SDFZ 251/C EXTERIOR
- HLX48281 SDFZ 251/C FRONT SNOW SKI SET
- HLX48282 AUSTIN TILLY UPGRADE
- HLX48285 GERMAN LICENSE PLATES WITH DECALS
- HLX48288 STURMTIGER UPGRADE
- HLX48292 M-10 ARMoured ROOF UPGRADE
- HLX48294 UM BZ-38 REFUELLER KIT UPGRADE

Hauler has sent a number of their 1:48 scale photo-etched and resin upgrades for this column to review. I will comment on the contents each set below.

HLX48276 OPEL BLITZ UPGRADE.

This set consists of one photo-etch fret and one clear film (which include all the widows and the instrument cluster). The photo-etch includes items like the windshield surround, dash board, 3/4 window surrounds, various boxes, number plate surrounds and various tie downs. The etch itself is very well done and will greatly enhance the Supermodel/Tamiya kits. Recommended.

HLX48278 SDFZ 251/C EXTERIOR.

I used this set in my build of the AFV kit a few months ago and I was impressed with it then (as I am now). Included is basically all you will ever need to detail the exterior of the AFV Kit and is intended to replace the out of scale kit items. Recommended.

HLX48281 SDFZ 251/C FRONT SNOW SKI SET.

This set is designed for either the AFV or Tamiya kits and consists of two resin "ski boxes" (that were attached to the front wheels of the 251) and a small fret of tie downs. The resin and etch are very well done and would be an interesting addition to either of the kits mentioned above. Highly Recommended

HLX48282 AUSTIN TILLY UPGRADE.

This set consists of one photo-etched fret and one clear film (which include all the widows and the instrument cluster). The photo-etch includes items like the windshield surround, dashboard and various other small fittings found on this vehicle. The set includes the open grille work at the front and although good, I believe this could have been finer. There also seems to be a number of bars short in the grill area itself (which may be the result of them not being fine enough). The etch itself is well done and will greatly enhance the Tamiya kit. Recommended (just).

HLX48285 GERMAN LICENCE PLATES WITH DECALS.

This set consists of a small photo-etched fret of two styles (boarded or unboarded) of front and rear German number plates and a small water slide decal sheet of numbers and letters. This set will allow you to model basically any variation of number plate you have seen in your reference photos. Highly Recommended

HLX48288 STURM TIGER UPGRADE.

This set includes two small photo-etched frets for the repetitively new AFV kit. This upgrade consists of a very fine set of mesh grills for the rear of the vehicle, together with a Photo-etch fret for most of the smaller fittings on the outside of the vehicle. Also included is barrel rifling (which looks like it would be a bit tricky to fit). Overall however this set will greatly enhance the AFV kit. Recommended.

HLX48292 M-10 ARMoured ROOF UPGRADE.

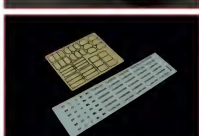
I would recommend this set for the "lazy modeller" as it consists of one very small set of photo-etch that represents the armoured roof upgrade that was fitted to some US M-10's latter in the war. Personally, I see this as a waste of time as it could (and should) be done in plastic card by the modeller. Recommended (but only if you're lazy)

HLX48294 UM BZ-38 REFUELLER KIT UPGRADE.

This set consists of one photo-etched fret and one clear film (which include all the widows and the instrument cluster) the photo-etch includes items like the front grill, fender upgrades various boxes, number plate surrounds and various tie downs. The set also includes a set of tracks that was used on this series of trucks when used on soft ground. The etch itself is very well done and will greatly enhance the UM kit. Highly Recommended.

In summary, these upgrades offer a level of detail not found in the kits they intend to upgrade and, for the most part, are well worthwhile.

Thanks to Hauler for the samples www.hauler.cz



TORO MODEL

WWII GERMAN OPEL BLITZ CARGO DRUMS (48015)

WWII GERMAN OPEL BLITZ CARGO CRATES (48016)

Both of these sets are cast as one piece each. The drums (16) and crates (5) are covered by a tarp. These sets are a simple solution to fill the cargo area of not just the Tamiya Blitz but any truck for that matter. The resin is well cast and these handy accessories are well done. Recommended.

Thanks to Adalbertus for the samples
www.adalbertus.com.pl



New Products

MIG PRODUCTIONS

Mig Productions have released a Dodge Ambulance in 1:48 scale. I will review this when a sample comes to hand.

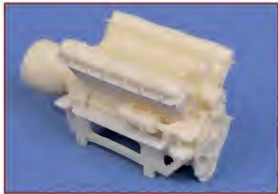


TOTAL WAR MINIATURES

Manel Arin has launched a new 1:48 scale company called Total War Miniatures. This new enterprise will debut two figure sets – a pair of US WWII figures and two Panzer crew. We hope to have a review next issue, but in the meantime you can check out their website www.totalwarminiatures.com

FOX MINIATURES

I have been in contact with Fox Miniatures and can confirm that this range of figures is slated for release in the last quarter of this year.



PAVLA

1:35 ENGINE V-2 FOR T-34, SU-85, IS-2 ITEM NO. M 35-05

Pavla has released a very nicely detailed resin V-2 engine for Soviet armoured vehicles including the T-34, SU-85 and IS-2.

The engine is made up from eight resin parts. Casting blocks looks to be fairly easy to clean up. The main casting is the large engine block. This is cast onto a stand, so the engine could be used as a display piece in its own right, or as part of a maintenance diorama. Separate resin pieces are provided for the exhaust manifolds and the large fan assembly.

Pavla's resin V-2 engine is a well-detailed accessory for modellers of WWII and early post-war Soviet subjects. Thanks to Creative Models Australia

www.creativemodels.com.au for the sample.

Brett Green

ACADEMY

1:35 SCALE USMC M50A1 ONTOS • ITEM NO 13218

Academy might not release as many armour kits as other manufacturers, but when they do, they often surprise us as they have with this little gem. The Ontos ("thing" in Greek) is a lightly armoured vehicle with six 106mm recoilless rifles, four MB .50 cal spotting rifles and a .30 cal machine gun mounted on top. It was mainly designed to destroy enemy armour, but in Vietnam this wasn't a big threat so instead it was used to provide direct support for the infantry, perimeter defence and convoy escort security.

Academy's 1:35 scale Ontos comprises five sprues with a total of 315 grey parts, a photo-etched sheet with 29 parts, vinyl tracks, decals for two vehicles, and easy to understand instructions. As a bonus, a rather antique-looking tube of glue is also included.

All the parts appear to be free from flash and well detailed, with touches like weld beads, etched exhaust screens and a fret of .50 and .30 cal, two figures and some 106mm shells. The instructions are well drawn and easy to understand, but care should be taken when assembling the weapons platform, ensuring all is aligned and straight.

I would suggest when building this kit that you work in sub assemblies for ease of painting and weathering later on.

Painting this kit should be a lot of fun as will be weathering considering all those rich colours of Vietnam.

Academy's 1:35 scale Ontos will be ideal for a small diorama or vignette due to its small size. I am sure that aftermarket accessories won't be far off for all the detail nuts.

This is a gem of a kit and I recommend it. Sample purchased by reviewer.

Andrew Judson



ATTACK HOBBY KITS

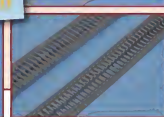
1:35 IMPLEMENTS AND TOOLS ITEM NO. RE 35507

Attack Hobby Kits is offering a handy set of generic 1:35 scale resin tools for vehicles or diorama settings. 64 well-cast tools are provided in total, broken down into two styles of shovel, picks, axes, sledge hammers and block splitters. All of the parts are cast onto strips, with some excess material also present on the ends of the handles.

This set will be particularly useful if you want to employ individual clamps for vehicle-based tools. Thanks to Creative Models Australia

www.creativemodels.com.au for the sample.

Brett Green



SLS

1:35 8.8 CM AMMO CRATE FOR PAK 43 AND KWK 43 ITEM NO. 35013

SLS from Germany is offering a range of laser cut, real wood products. One of their recent releases is an ammunition crate for Pak 43 and KwK 43 8.8cm shells. The torch marks from the laser cutting process lends an instant touch of realistic weathering to the fine wooden parts. Two crates are included, with each being made up from 20 wooden parts. In addition to cutting the parts, the laser has also been used to etch label markings on each crate.

Except for a parts diagram, instructions are almost non-existent, so extra reference will be helpful.

These will be luxurious accessories for your 1:35 scale Pak 43 or KwK 43 equipped models. Lovely stuff!

Thanks to Creative Models Australia

www.creativemodels.com.au for the sample.

Brett Green



MIG PRODUCTIONS

1:35 COBBLESTONE STREET SECTIONS (ROUGH) ITEM NO. MP 35-321

They don't come much easier than this. MIG Productions has released two sections of identical cobblestone street sections. Each rectangle measures 95mm x 150mm.

The rough cobblestone texture is very convincing and should look great under a coat of paint with some careful weathering.

The parts are provided ready to use with no casting blocks or waste to clean up. Each section could be used as an individual base, or the two sections will be easy to bring together as a larger piece of streetwork. Some minor work will be required to blend the two sections in the latter case.

MIG Productions' 1:35 scale "Cobblestone Street Sections (Rough)" will be a very simple way to add authenticity to your urban vignettes or dioramas.

Thanks to MIG Productions for the sample

www.migproductions.com

Brett Green

DIORAMAS PLUS

1:35 VARIOUS RUIN SETS

Dioramas Plus from USA is producing some of the nicest 1:35 scale ruins around. Their sets are just awesome and the detail is excellent.

These are a must have for the most demanding modeller and they will improve a lot the final look of the dioramas. Sets like the Government Ruins, Brick Ruins and 3-Story Apartment are just beautiful and they can be used in many scenarios.

The main parts are made from hydrocal plaster and some sets even provides laser cut wood windows and doors with adhesive backing for and easy assembly of the laser cut shattered glass also provided. The wooden parts and shattered glass must be seen to be believed. They are top quality and very realistic.

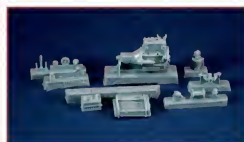
The sets also provide a bag with bricks and different sizes of debris to compose the final scene.

Clear and in colour instructions with step by step directions are provided.

In conclusion, these sets from Diorama Plus are really wonderful. They will look great once assembled and painted. I will certainly use them in my 2010 projects, especially in a "Berlin 1945" diorama that I am planning to build in the next months.

Thanks to Dioramas Plus for the samples www.dioramasplus.com

Jose Brito



SKP

1:35 AUSTIN 10 4-CYLINDER ENGINE (ENGINE SET FOR SKP AUSTIN 10HP) ITEM NO. SKP 086

After releasing their 1:35 scale Austin Tilly, SKP from the Czech Republic has also made available a complete engine for the same vehicle. The full resin set is composed of 15 resin parts and 3 photo-etched parts. The resin is top quality with fine casting. Some cleanup is necessary but construction is straightforward.

The instructions are clear, concise and in colour.

Thanks to SKP for the sample

www.skpmodel.eu

Jose Brito

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BEST BRASS AROUND

35977 Panther Ausf.A late 1/35 (Dragon)



35978 Panther Ausf.A late 1/35 (Dragon)



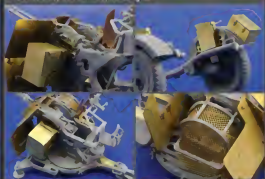
35976 Zimmern Panther Ausf.A late 1/35 (Dragon)



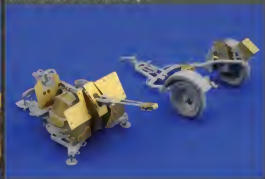
35950 Flak 38/105 30mm 1/35 (Dragon)



35950 Flak 38/105 30mm 1/35 (Dragon)



35950 Flak 38/105 30mm 1/35 (Dragon)



www.eduard.com



Book Reviews

TANK PLANT

HOW THEY MADE TANKS IN MY HOMETOWN IN WORLD WAR TWO

BY GREGORY T JONES

HARD BOUND, 164 PAGES

I should start this review by stating I am an unashamed Shermanaholic and this may colour my review of this unique book. Tank Plant is one of those esoteric titles that is hard to assign a genre to but is a fascinating read. Mr Jones has produced a fantastic title dedicated to the manufacture of large steel castings in Granite City, Illinois USA during the Second World War. These were used in tank manufacture, in particular the ubiquitous Sherman Tank.

The book details the contribution to the war made by General Steel Castings and its two foundries in Granite City - American Steel Foundry and Commonwealth Steel - and the process used to create the large castings that made up the cast variants of the Sherman. The Author provides a brief history of General Steel and goes on to describe the process used in the manufacture of these massive castings that not only were used in US tank manufacture but also in Canada's indigenous RAM tank.

I found myself fascinated by the process, which is well described and illustrated by the author.

Mr Jones has recreated the process in scale to show exactly how it works. The book is well illustrated in both colour and black and white, however some of the picture quality is of low resolution being reproduced from original factory newsletters. The text is on the large size and easily read (appreciated by the reviewer).

I found this a great read but hard to categorise. I would recommend it to serious fans of the Sherman tank family and students of manufacture and engineering. It is well researched and written with a good supply of photos to illustrate and amplify the author's research.

Recommended.

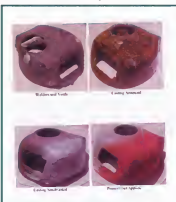
Thanks to Gregory T Jones for the sample

Al Bowie

TANK PLANT



How they Made Tanks in my Hometown in World War Two
Gregory T. Jones



WEAPONS OF WAR SERIES

17 POUNDER ANTI TANK GUN IN CANADIAN SERVICE - DOUG KNIGHT

THE FERRET SCOUT CAR IN CANADIAN SERVICE - COLIN MACGREGOR STEVENS

EARLY ARMOUR IN CANADIAN SERVICE - ROGER V. LUCY

THE 34 TON SMP TRUCK IN CANADIAN SERVICE - ANDREW LAROCCHI

SOFT BOUND, EACH 24 PAGES

The Canadian Army has fielded many different weapons, vehicles and weapon systems over the years and this series of softcover books is dedicated to those subjects. These are the latest titles in the series joining 24 similar titles already in the range. These books cram a lot of useful information backed by B&W photographs and scale drawings into their 24 A5 sized pages and are a great addition to the library whether you are a modeller, historian or enthusiast.

The first title is the Ferret Scout Car in Canadian Service. This offers great insight into this versatile vehicle which has served the Canadian Armed Forces since 1954 until their retirement in the early 1980s. Many photos covering the varied service career of the Ferret with Canadian forces at home, in Germany and with various peacekeeping missions are included in this title, offering the modeller some great subjects.

Sticking with the vehicle theme is the next title on the SMP 34 Ton Truck. This book covers the M37 light 34 ton truck, which was selected to replace the ageing fleet of WWII CMP vehicles that entered service in 1951. A total of 3,507 of these vehicles served in a multitude of roles including as Ambulances until the early 1990s. Early Armour in Canadian Service is an interesting title and covers the genesis of Canadian armoured equipment from WWI through to the early days of WWII. Many pictures of vehicles including the Jeffrey Armoured truck of WWI through the various interwar British designs, Ford FT 6 tonners and various mock ups grace this title, which is an interesting read to say the least.

Rounding out this batch is a title devoted to the premier Allied AT gun of WWII, the Ordnance QF 17 Pounder of British design. This excellent weapon was fielded by Commonwealth forces in Italy and North Western Europe from 1943 and proved to be an excellent tank killer. It also served post-war including Korea as an Infantry Anti-Tank Gun until replaced by the M40 106mm Recoilless Rifle. The book covers the history and employment of the 17 Pdr QF as a towed anti gun, SP mount, Tank Gun and various experimental carriages. A great selection of photos showing the weapons in action along with their various gun tractors etc make for a good reference book again with broad appeal.

These books cram a lot of useful information backed by B&W photographs and line drawings into their 24 A5 sized pages and are a great addition to the library whether you are a modeller, historian or enthusiast.

Review Sample supplied by Service Publications - Weapons of War www.servicepub.com



adhbooks.com





IN THE CLEAR

Al Bowie looks into the new 1:35 scale T-34/76 1942 Factory 112 through its clear hull and turret.

The T-34, like the Sherman, was a significant weapons system forming the backbone of Soviet armoured forces in WWII, and was a significant landmark in tank development, setting the design template for successive designs of all nations. AFV Club has offered the 1942 Factory 112 version of the T34/76 as a limited edition kit with full-scale interior and the novelty of a clear hull and turret Parts to display the interior.

AFV Club's 1:35 scale T-34/76 Model 1942 comprises 560 parts. The kit is a packed box and offers a multi media approach containing PE, metal suspension springs and a turned metal barrel with rifling. Surprisingly AFV Club has chosen to give this kit full-length flexible vinyl tracks that are quite soft. The concept of the clear parts allows to display the full interior which includes the engine compartment

is a bit flawed as they have left the entire upper engine and rear decking as solid plastic parts which negates the rest of the see through hull, as most of the very detailed engine and transmission compartment will not be visible. There are a number of prominent knockout pin marks in obvious places on the clear parts such as the turret top, which will be very hard to patch or remove without leaving blemishes.

The interior is very detailed and the engine and gearbox assemblies are works of art although there a number of small accuracy issues including the fitting of the air cleaner on the engine top. This also has the separate air cleaners in the transmission compartment. The road wheels supplied are the common solid Zaved No. 174 type and have separate styrene rims, which will aid in painting. They match known reference well, unlike the previous fictional

AFV Club steel road wheel. The engine deck louvers could do with replacement with either fine rod or photo-etch, as the side ones are moulded too close together. I would also recommend changing the tracks for individual link types.

This kit is lot better in accuracy and detail than the Factory 183 from AFV club which has some serious issues. It is not the ultimate T-34 kit in detail but will make a good T-34 76 Factory 112 1942 with a little correction. I find the clear approach gimmicky and it will create problems where parts such as those in the turret need to be connected directly to it.

If you are a T-34 fanatic then this might not be the one for you, but if you want an interesting T-34 kit with interior features then I would recommend this kit. Recommended. ■

Thanks to JB Wholesalers for the sample
www.jbwholesalers.com.au



The upper hull and turret are provided in clear plastic.

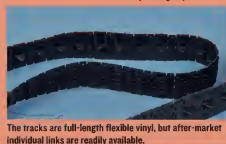


Curiously, the engine deck is solid, blocking the view to this busy area.



The wheels are the common solid Zaved No. 174 type.

Tires are separate, but they are solid plastic and moulded in black. No painting required?



The tracks are full-length flexible vinyl, but after-market individual links are readily available.

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Next Issue

On sale May 6th 2010

SIG Heil!

Dragon's 1:35 scale SIG 33 is built and placed into a scene by Javier Redondo.



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Editorial enquiries:
Email: editor@modelmilitary.com

Advertising enquiries:
Tel: +44 (0)1525 222573
Email: colin@adhpublishing.com

Subscription enquiries:
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DISPUTING SCALE EFFECT

I recently received an email from a visitor regarding the discussion of "scale effect" in Issue 44 of Model Military International:

In Issue 44, the article on airbrushing states "There is a school of thought that defines 'scale effect'. The general proposition is that colours will appear lighter or weaker when viewed from a certain distance. The level of lightness or weakness will increase as distance increases."

Now, that's all very well. I am disappointed, however, that the article goes on to assume that this school of thought is the only one out there, and must presumably be adhered to for "best modelling practice". It fails to point out that there is another school of thought that thinks that "scale effect" is a fiction perpetrated by people who, to put it kindly, don't have a very good understanding of the physical properties of light.

There is a very good reason why colours appear muted at a distance. It is because the atmosphere is not perfectly transparent. Any given volume of air includes a quantity of dust and other "impurities" that will hinder the transmission of light between the viewer and the object being viewed. Colour itself -- the physical property of a given wavelength of light -- does not change whether an object is big or small.

The question then becomes what we want our scale model to represent. If we want it to look small because it is a long way away, then the use of scale effect to mute the colours is completely appropriate. What is also completely appropriate in that circumstance - and yet, strangely, is never done by the advocates of scale effect - is to blur the fine details of the object because it is hard to see such fine details on an object that is a long way away. No-one is going to make out the perfect representations of belt buckles and fine mesh at a couple of hundred metres, so why bother? The entire model may as well be a largely featureless blob.

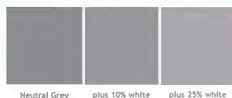
In other words, the advocates of "scale effect" want two contradictory realism effects simultaneously: all of the fine details available for close inspection, but the colours "realistically" depicted for an object that is only "small" because it isn't close.

My approach is that scale models are small because they are small scale models, much smaller than the real thing. I like fine details to be visible because I want my models to be inspected closely, not from a couple of hundred scale metres. With no such pretence in place, "scale effect" is not only meaningless, it is contradictory to real world physics. So my advice would be to ignore that entire section of the article.

Bruce Probst, Melbourne



Scale Effect on Neutral Grey



Thank you for your correspondence. You have clearly put much thought into your arguments.

May I first declare that I never claimed that scale effect is the only painting approach, and certainly do not believe, nor stated anywhere in the text, that it must be adhered to for "best modelling practice".

In fact, I point out right up front that this is only one school of thought. I also discuss the effects of weathering and exposure in different environments.

I understand your proposition that colours are muted due to atmospheric distortion, and that this does not change the colour per se. Even so, the object often appears muted at a distance, and I cannot think of an alternative to using a lighter shade of the same colour to represent this variation.

I do accept your argument that scale effect almost demands the blurring of detail, whereas most modellers - myself included - will tend to sharpen smaller details instead. This certainly seems contradictory to the principle of scale effect.

I am not ramming the concept of scale effect down anyone's throat. I am simply putting it up as one way to approach a modelling paint job. The alternative to using scale effect is to use undiluted colours, which I thought was self-evident so I did not explicitly discuss this more common approach.

Our hobby in general, and painting models in particular, is not a science with hard and fast rules. I do not refer to the laws of physics when I pick up an airbrush. Instead, I look at a photograph and try to replicate what I see. I expect that you do the same. I tend to use lighter colours because I think they look better. I take the trouble to pick out small parts in order to highlight interesting details. But I do all of this within the framework of creating a credible replica.

Modelling might not be art, but we make artistic decisions every time we work on a kit. Scale effect and atmospheric distortions are just a couple of the considerations that make this such an absorbing hobby.

Thanks again for your note.

Brett Green

COMFORT ZONES

Since taking on the role of Editor nearly a year ago, I have built quite a few military models. During this period I have admired the work of Jose Brito, Sam Dwyer and others who have also included figures with their vehicles.

I confess that I do not feel entirely confident when I am painting figures. Even so, I am starting to feel the need to give some of my models a sense of context by starting to use figures and bases. There is no doubt that figures can help tell a story,

so I will push myself out of my comfort zone and paint up a few figures over the coming weeks. I will let you know how I go!

In the meantime, I dragged one of my old figures out of a drawer last night. This is a 1:35 scale Verlinden Soviet Naval Infantry Officer that I built and painted around 1998. Verlinden did a lovely job with the sculpting but he does seem to bear a striking resemblance to Frank Gorshin - The Riddler from the 1960s Batman TV series!

Now all I have to do is try to remember how I painted figures way back then...

Sd.Kfz.164

Nashorn**3 in 1****Smart Kit**

Engineered for modeling enjoyment

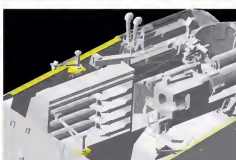
Plastic parts with enhanced detail

Unprecedented value

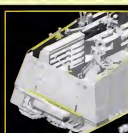
Ready for instant assembly



- New scale-thickness fighting compartment armor has extra-thin top edge



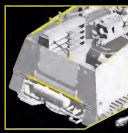
- Fighting compartment w/accurate interior detail



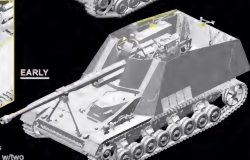
INITIAL



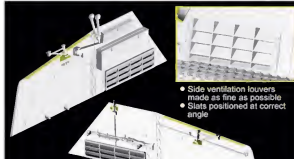
INITIAL MODIFIED



EARLY



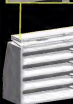
- Newly tooled Sd.Kfz.164 Nashorn w/authentic detail
- Great detail on the hull rear w/two options of pipes and mufflers included



- Newly tooled fighting compartment armor w/accurate detail on both sides



- Two newly tooled ammo bins w/ammunition included



- Movable brackets can be positioned up/down



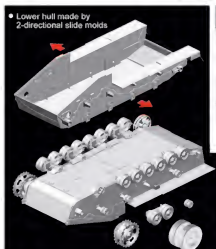
- Gun shield realistically produced w/extra armor newly tooled



- Additional armor w/authentic bolt detail



- Newly tooled glass plate finely produced w/weld seams
- Hatches and periscope cover can be assembled open/closed



- Road wheels and return rollers w/realistic detail

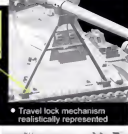


- Fighting compartment periscopes w/clear parts

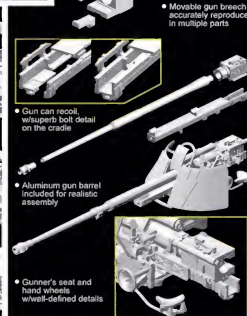
- Warm-air vent is slide molded



- Three types of travel lock w/crip details



- Travel lock mechanism realistically represented



- Gun can recoil, w/authentic bolt detail on the cradle

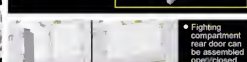
- Aluminum gun barrel included for realistic assembly

- Gunner's seat and hand wheels w/well-defined details

- Fighting compartment rear door can be assembled open/closed



- Two spare-track brackets included for different assembly



D6386

Dragon Kits are distributed in the UK by The Hobby Company Limited, Knowlhill, Milton Keynes, MK5 8PG

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www.hobbyco.net**DRAGON****THE HOBBY COMPANY LIMITED**

1/35
SCALE

CARIUS' LAST TIGER

1/35 Scale Military Miniature Series Jagdtiger Mid Production Commander Otto Carius

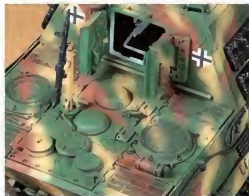
Item 35307

Tamiya's 1/35 scale Jagdtiger Early Production model kit (35295) is widely acclaimed for its accuracy and engineering. The Mid Production variant to depict the vehicle belonging to Lt. Otto Carius, the legendary German tank ace who destroyed over 150 tanks on the Russian front while commanding a Tiger I, has now been added to the 1/35 MM Series line-up. Thanks to invaluable first-hand accounts from Carius himself, everything from the tank's No.201 markings to the crew uniforms are faithfully depicted. Three lifelike figures are included to depict Carius, a member of his crew, and a motorcycle-riding orderly in a field briefing scene. Differences from the Early Production variant such as spare track link racks, unused side skirt attachment points, antenna, and road wheels with different bolt locations are all accurately reproduced as well. Five types of markings, mainly for vehicles from s.Pz.Jg.Abt 512, are also included.

Mid Production variant details are accurately reproduced and both belt and assembly type tracks are included.



Length: 301mm



The rear hatch can be opened to reveal interior details while photo-etched engine grilles enhance exterior detail.

**Panzerjäger
"Jagdtiger"** MM 307
Sd.Kfz.186 Mittlerer Produktion
Komm. O. Carius

1/35
SCALE

BRITISH LIGHT UTILITY CAR
10HP

Length: 112mm

British Personality in 1/35 Scale

Due to popular demand, Tamiya has produced a 1/35 scale model of this unique vehicle. Detailed parts are included to depict several production variations.

1/35 British Light Utility Car 10hp Item 35308



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